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## Christopher arrives today for talks with Peres

Jerusalem Post Staff

US SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher arrives here today for another round of shuttle talks between Jerusalem and Damascus, in an effort to put impetus in the Israeli-Syrian peace talks.

Christopher is expected to discuss the possibility of early Israeli elections with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and the impact this would have on the talks with Syria.

Government sources in Washington have emphasized that the US will not interfere in domestic decision-making in Israel. However, they indicated that they believe early elections would result in a de facto suspension of the peace talks even if contacts between the two countries continue.

US President Bill Clinton said last week that there "certainly was hope" that an agreement would be reached, but refused to refer to any timetable.

The Clinton administration believes that an agreement can be reached this year, a senior official said. However, the official said the talks would have to "move to a more intensive framework" than what is being conducted at Wye Plantation in Maryland if this were to be achieved.

In comments to Israeli reporters in Washington on Friday, the official said that in order to complete a peace deal there would have to be a summit between Peres and Syrian President Hafez Assad.

One way to speed up the process, the official said, is to expand the amount of time the two sides meet for each round of talks at Wye. Another round of talks in their current framework is to be held at Wye after the Christopher visit to the region.

"Enough momentum has been created in the negotiations," said a senior Israeli source in Washington, adding it is worthwhile to keep this momentum even if there has to be a break in the talks for early elections in Israel. If Peres is elected, it will be quite easy to renew the talks, the source said. If another government takes power, the talks can also resume, but it will take longer, he added.

The senior American official said the Syrians are not now requesting bridging proposals from the US as they have in the past. Instead, they are focusing on Israeli participation in every issue.

## First US soldier killed in Bosnia

SARAJEVO (Renter) - US peacekeeping forces in Bosnia suffered their first fatality when a soldier was killed by a mine yesterday, hours after Secretary of State Warren Christopher visited.

The soldier, whose name was withheld until his family was notified, was mowing a checkpoint near Gradacac in northern Bosnia, about 40 km north of the main US base at Tuzla.

President Bill Clinton said efforts to protect US troops would be intensified and offered his condolences to the family.

"They should know that he died in the noblest of causes, in the pursuit of peace," he said.

Full report, Page 3

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The first 16 Japanese soldiers to serve in the UN Disengagement Observer Force arrive at the Golan Heights on Friday. At the end of the month, 45 Japanese soldiers are to replace the Canadians now serving there. (Reuters)

## PA kills two Islamic Jihad activists Suspected of involvement in Beit Lid bombing

PALESTINIAN Preventive Security agents raided a house in the Shati refugee camp near Gaza City yesterday and killed two Islamic Jihad activists, after they apparently refused to surrender, camp residents said.

Channel 2 said the two men were involved in planning the Beit Lid doctile-bombing which killed 20 soldiers and a civilian one year ago. Sources in Gaza said they were suspected of planning attacks against Israelis to avenge the killing of Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki in Malta three months ago.

A police statement said that when a patrol had gone to the house to arrest Mahmoud

Zatmar and Riyad Abu Hashish, gunmen in another room of the house began shooting at the policemen. Police returned fire and a grenade exploded in the other room.

Two bodies, along with another grenade ready to explode and two more grenades, were later found in the room. The bodies were identified as Amar Arraj, 25, from the Rimal quarter of Gaza City, and Eymen Ruzeineh, 30, from Jabalya refugee camp.

Camp residents say the incident began when four or five plainclothes policemen

stormed the house, arrested two men, and then chased two other men into a room, one of them holding a hand grenade. Police told them they had one minute to surrender and shot them when they refused.

An Islamic Jihad activist called the killings "a criminal act" and said his movement demands an explanation of why the two men, who he claims were not armed, were killed "without resistance when it was possible to arrest them." Gaza police called on Islamic Jihad leaders to act responsibly.

The bodies were later taken from Shifa Hospital by their families and buried quietly.

## Bar-Ilan U. fund-raising brochure features Amir

A FUND-RAISING booklet for Bar-Ilan University that was produced before the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin - but was distributed last week in New York City - featured the photograph of confessed assassin Yigal Amir 12 times.

The booklet, printed for a university dinner held in New York and organized by American donors, displays a black-and-white photograph of Amir in paid advertisements congratulating honorary degree winners.

The photographs of Amir, who is not identified in the booklet and is apparently intended to represent a typical university student, were not removed when the booklet was reprinted.

BATSHEVA TSUR and news agencies

"The brochure was prepared a year-and-a-half in advance, and I am very sorry that a technical error of this kind occurred," university president Shlomo Eckstein said last night.

"The shock is first of all ours," Eckstein said in an interview on Channel 1, "because we at the university denounced [Amir] and wiped him off all our books. I am extremely sorry that such a technical error has again led to a stigma against the university."

Eckstein said that after the banquet was postponed following the assassination, "We changed all the letters in the

brochure and dedicated it to the memory of the late prime minister. We are shocked."

Asked whether the brochure had not been examined before going to print, Eckstein said that the material had been left at a computerized printing company, and that he was not sure whether the printers even knew who Yigal Amir was. He said that an investigation would be carried out to see whether the error could have been prevented.

Eckstein made an impassioned plea in the public not to attach yet another stigma to the university.

## Shlomo Yanai appointed OC Southern Command

ON LEVY

THE IDF announced a new round of senior appointments on Friday, including one surprise - the naming of Brig.-Gen. Shlomo Yanai as OC Southern Command.

It is the first time a brigadier-general has been appointed to head the command; he will be promoted to the rank of major-general and assume his new post on February 16. Yanai currently serves as head of doctrine development in the Ground Forces Command.

OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz will become OC Planning Branch, replacing Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan. Dayan will become OC Central Command, replacing Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran, who is leaving the army and is to become chairman of the Oil Refineries.

The appointments, by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, were approved last week by Prime Minister and Defense Minister Shimon Peres. General Staff sources expressed satisfaction with the appointments.

Mofaz will take a two-week vacation at the end of the month and begin his new post at the start of next month. Part of his job will be to coordinate the talks with Syria and the continuing talks with the Palestinians.

Dayan is scheduled to assume his post at Central Command on March 22, only four days before the IDF is to redeploy in Hebron and the surrounding area. In his current post as OC Planning Branch, Dayan helped

draft the agreements with the Palestinians, and as OC Central Command will be responsible for implementing them. Senior defense sources said that his good relationship with

the Palestinians will be helpful in his new post. Another round of appointments is expected to be completed by June: Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliahu, currently deputy



SHAUL MOFAZ



SHLOMO YANAI

The new OC Planning Branch, was born in 1948 in Iran and immigrated here with his family at age nine. He has bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Bar-Ilan University. During the Six Day War, Mofaz fought near Rafiah, participated in the Entebbe raid in 1976, and served as a brigade commander in the Lebanon War. In 1993, he was appointed OC Judea and Samaria, and in November 1994 was appointed OC Southern Command.

head of Operations Branch, is expected to be named OC Air Force, replacing Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger. Brig.-Gen. Amos Malka is expected to replace Ben-Eliahu. The new OC Central Command, was born in 1948 and grew up in Moshav Yogeve. He served in the elite Sayeret Matkal and in the Armored Corps. In 1994 Maj.-Gen. Dayan was appointed OC Planning Branch. He headed the security talks with the Palestinians and the Jordanians, is the senior liaison officer with the Jordanian Army, and has represented Israel in the talks with Syria. Dayan has a BA in math and physics from the Hebrew University, and an MA in operations research from Stanford.

## 'Elections will be advanced to May 21'

LIAT COLLINS, SARAH HONIG, and Itim

KNESSET elections will be advanced to May 21, senior Labor Party members said over the weekend.

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram said that, given the need to establish an elections timetable - which must also account for a possible run-off election for prime minister - that date is a reasonable one.

But Prime Minister Shimon Peres refused to commit himself to that or any other date, telling Channel 1's *Mabat* last night that he would decide on a date by the end of the month.

"Everyone is pressuring me to decide before the proper time, but no one is going to force my hand on this. I will decide exactly when there is a need to decide," Peres said.

He insisted there is no connection between a decision on new elections and either Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit this week or the results of opinion polls.

Peres cited several justifications for calling early elections. One, he said, is because the election campaign has essentially begun, and to have it last 10 months would be a tremendous waste of time and money.

He added that there are also many pressing national issues to be decided that require the government to seek a new mandate.

Baram agreed that Peres needs to get Labor's mandate renewed. "Today there is every reason in the world to come and say we want to advance the elections, both because of the negotiations with Syria and because of the final-status talks with the Palestinians," he said.

But Environment Minister Yossi Sarid (Meretz) said he hopes that Peres, "for the sake of his credibility, will tell the nation the truth and not come up with excuses which are patently untrue and often border on the ludicrous."

"He has to tell the nation that, in his mind, early elections are advantageous for his party and that he is acting with political expediency, but not invent pretexts that are transparently ridiculous," Sarid said.

Meretz faction head Ran Cohen said advancing the elections would mean sacrificing six months of diplomatic effort and would aggravate the Americans. But Peres discounted reports that the US has expressed concern that early elections could interfere with progress in the negotiations with Syria.

Peres told Israel Radio on Friday that he and Christopher had discussed the issue of early elections by phone. "He [Christopher] told me that

the United States has no intention whatsoever to interfere in the elections," Peres said. "I told him that there was not and will not be any link between elections and the peace process."

Coalition chairman Ra'anan Cohen (Labor) is scheduled to hold meetings with the heads of other Knesset factions this week in a bid to find an acceptable date for early elections. Cohen said yesterday that any date between May 15 and June 15 is possible.

Cohen is expected to meet with Peres today, upon the latter's return from Europe, and with Likud faction chairman Moshe Katsav tomorrow.

Cohen stressed that the early elections are a necessity, because of the local political realities.

"The coalition will find it hard to function after the primary elections," he said. "Early elections are in the interests of all parties, as they will bring about the establishment of a broader government, which will continue the thrust for peace and economic development."

Cohen criticized Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu, saying it is the first time in Israel's political history that the opposition is not interested in bringing the elections forward.

"It indicates the lack of willingness and ability on the part of the opposition to provide a governmental alternative. The Likud continues to stammer without presenting any alternative diplomatic program," Cohen said.

Katsav, however, said that, "In principle, the Likud agrees to advancing elections, though it has heard no specific offer from Labor and it awaits a meeting with its Labor counterpart to discover precisely what they're talking about."

Netanyahu has accused Peres of wanting early elections so as to capitalize on public sympathy brought on by Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. Asked about this, Peres told *Mabat* last night: "The Likud always said that we have no mandate, that this government is not legitimate, and we have no right to decide - so how come he has suddenly changed his mind?"

But Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Eli Dayan, appearing yesterday at a meeting of Galilee leaders, warned that if Labor comes to the elections without getting the Palestinian National Council to amend its covenant, "We are liable to pay a high price in the elections."

"The public will be astonished, and rightly so, that the covenant wasn't canceled," he said. "Therefore we are obliged to insist that it be canceled on April 12 as Yasser Arafat himself promised, and not accept anything else in exchange."

## Arafat to Peres: Council will convene soon

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

DAVOS - PLO leader Yasser Arafat pledged to Prime Minister Shimon Peres last night that the Palestinian Council would meet soon after the close of Ramadan in order to begin the process of amending the Palestinian Covenant.

According to the Oslo 2 agreement, sections of the Palestinian Covenant that call for the destruction of Israel are supposed to be abrogated after the council convenes. Arafat and Peres, meeting leaders at the annual World Economic Forum in this Swiss mountain resort, also discussed the issue of prisoner releases, Israel Radio reported.

Earlier, in a speech to business and political leaders, Arafat said Israel's border policy is a disaster and criticized Peres for dismissing Palestinian claims on Jerusalem.

Arafat denounced Israeli restrictions on Palestinian trade with Jordan and Egypt and appealed to donor countries to honor pledges of aid.

"Our losses on every day of these closures was more than \$6 million. It's a real disaster for us," he said.

He restated what he termed the "inalienable rights" of the Palestinian people to make Jerusalem the capital of a future Palestinian state and rejected Peres's dismissal of this claim.

"Mr. Peres has to remember what has been agreed with us and signed with us. It's not a bilateral agreement but an international one," he said.

Peres brushed aside Arafat's demand for east Jerusalem to become the capital of a future Palestinian state. "Jerusalem as you know is the (Continued on Page 2)







# Clinton returns to campaign stop

## Observers send message to Bob Dole: Don't panic!

MESSAGE to Bob Dole from political experts: "Don't panic!" It has been a dreadful week for the Senate Majority Leader in his quest for the Republican presidential nomination to face President Bill Clinton in November.

Dole has seen his support melt away faster than the last snowfall. One daily poll in New Hampshire, where Republicans stage the crucial first primary preference election of the campaign on Feb. 20, showed Dole losing two percentage points every day this week.

In two other surveys this week, Dole was shown trailing millionaire publishing magnate Steve Forbes in New Hampshire.

Luckily for Dole, the first major test of the campaign takes place in

Iowa, where Republicans will vote in local party meetings known as caucuses eight days before the New Hampshire primary.

"My impression is that Dole remains the best-organized of all the candidates by far in Iowa and his support is fairly solid," said Hugh Winnebrenner, a political analyst at Drake University in Des Moines.

Arthur Miller, a pollster at the University of Iowa, said Dole's support was "slipping some but he is definitely not in free-fall."

Forbes has campaigned mainly through television advertisements and has devoted little time to building the grass-roots organization that traditionally wins in Iowa, where only one in five

Republican party members has actually turned up to vote in past elections.

To do well, Forbes must bring out a large number of voters who in the past have not participated in caucus meetings, or what will likely be a bitterly cold night.

Despite the ground Dole has lost, political analysts said his financial muscle and organizational strength still made him formidable. His best hope, they counseled, was to stay calm and keep his notoriously sharp temper in check.

"I'd tell him, don't panic. emphasize you're in control, stay confident, emphasize your maturity and tell voters it's not only natural but good for the front-runner to be questioned and tested," said Morris Fiorino, a political scientist at Harvard University.

That appears to be exactly what Dole's advisers are telling him. Campaigning in New Hampshire on Wednesday, the 72-year-old Dole showed good humor and bravado by visiting a brewing company where the choice beer is called "Old Man Ale."

"Young and fresh. You should try it," said Dole, hoisting a bottle while photographers captured the moment.

He refused to mention Forbes

by name. "We're going to talk about Bob Dole's campaign. We think it's going very well," he said. "We're going to stay on our game plan and let him stay on his."

Steve Wayne, a political analyst at Georgetown University, said Dole could benefit from diminished expectations. Now, even mediocre results in the opening primaries and caucuses could be seen as a relative success for him.

Conversely, expectations for Forbes had now been raised. Forbes himself says he does not expect to win in either Iowa or New Hampshire but anything less than a strong second would be seen as a disappointment.

"Dole must pull out all the organizational stops. Not only is his future on the line but so are all the Republican governors and senators who endorsed him," Wayne said.

Nevertheless, neither Wayne nor Fiorino underestimated the trouble Dole was in. Once a front-runner starts slipping and loses his aura of inevitability, it is extremely hard to stop the slide.

Both raised the possibility, if Dole did not soon recover, of new names being drawn into the race as "write-in candidates."

Among those mentioned: Michigan Gov. John Engler, Ohio Representative John Kasich and Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson. (Reuter)

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (AP) - Four years ago, Bill Clinton stood in the tiny Salem High School gym, looked out over the nearly empty bleachers and made his case for the presidency to an audience of dozens.

"We spoke to about 120 people," Clinton recalled with a chuckle Friday night. "I thought I had a crowd."

Four years later, he stood in the same overheated gym as president of the United States and made his case for a second term to 2,000 rowdy, pom-pom-waving Democrats whose shouts of "Four more years!" rang down from the rafters with campaign-issued balloons.

"This country needs the right president," he declared. "I'm glad you think I'm the right president."

In his weekly radio address, recorded in New Hampshire for broadcast yesterday, Clinton repeated his call for an increase in the minimum wage and a law that would allow people to take their health insurance coverage from job to job.

He also reiterated his intention to sign the telecommunications overhaul legislation passed by Congress on Thursday and called on congressional Republicans to keep working with him to develop a balanced-budget plan.

After a day of low-key events steeped in policy and the presidency in Concord and Nashua, Clinton slipped into campaign mode at a New England-style night rally in Salem, south of Manchester.

He outlined the pillars of his campaign: educational opportunities, safe streets, accessible health care, environmental protection, economic growth and an aggressive foreign policy.

And he borrowed a page from Republican Ronald Reagan's "Stay the Course" re-election message of 1984. "We should not take a change of course and follow a direction that we know has no chance of working. What we need to do is bear down and go forward," he declared.

But the purpose of his two-day trip was to rekindle the magic of old-style, intimate politics that is a tradition in this first-in-the-nation primary state. Clinton has never forgotten that New Hampshire gave his sagging 1992 campaign a boost.

IRA denies attack; Irish FM urges UK to move

BELFAST (Reuter) - The Irish Republican Army (IRA) denied yesterday that it was involved in a gun attack in which 57 shots were fired at the home of a part-time policeman in Northern Ireland.

A coded statement issued in Belfast condemned as "mischievous" suggestions that the outlawed IRA was responsible.

An unidentified attacker sprayed bullets from what police said was probably an AK-47 assault rifle at the policeman's home on Friday. It was one of the worst attacks of a 16-month ceasefire.

Police said it bore "all the hallmarks" of a militia group and a senior security source was quoted by Britain's Press Association as blaming the IRA.

Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring warned Britain yesterday not to bury the Northern Ireland peace process by delaying all-party talks.

"There's an old expression which says that if you are in a hole, the best thing to do is stop digging," Spring told a seminar attended by leading Irish nationalist and Unionist politicians.

"The best thing we could do for each other now is for each of us to lay down our shovels," said Spring in a reference to sharp differences with London over how to judge their joint effort out of limbo.

The two governments are at odds over Britain's decision to call elections for a Northern Ireland assembly to talks on a lasting peace.

The Dublin government says this goes back on a pledge by Britain to try to bring Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, and Unionist parties to the conference table to negotiate a settlement to the 25-year Northern Ireland conflict.

Spring, who holds fresh talks with the British government on Wednesday to try to make it change its mind, said elections would produce winners and losers but negotiations would lead to a consensus which could be accepted by all.

"One of the difficulties that divides us at the moment springs directly from the fact that there are fundamental differences between the concept of negotiation and the concept of elections," he said.



US Secretary of State Warren Christopher emerges from a bunker at a Tuzla Air Base checkpoint yesterday, before addressing US peace-keeping troops. (Reuter)

## US soldier killed by Bosnia mine

AN American soldier was killed yesterday in a mine explosion in Bosnia, the US Army said, as Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in Sarajevo. He was the first US soldier to die in action in Bosnia.

The soldier, whose name was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, was wounded at a checkpoint near the town of Gradacac, 40 km north of Tuzla at 3:45 p.m., said Army spokesman Lt. Bill Donovan.

The soldier was flown to the 212th mobile Army surgical hospital nearby, but was pronounced dead, Donovan said.

"We believe he was on foot," the spokesman said. But further details were not immediately available.

An estimated three to six million mines are scattered across Bosnia.

President Clinton was briefed about the death during a campaign stop in New Hampshire. Asked by a reporter whether the accident gave him second thoughts about the Bosnian mission, he said, "No, not at all."

"I told the American people before it started, the place was filled with mines," Clinton

said, noting that other allied troops had been killed in land mine accidents.

Most injuries to NATO soldiers in Bosnia, including three US soldiers, have been from mines. Nine soldiers have died since the NATO deployment began and more than 40 have been injured.

Christopher arrived in the Bosnian capital yesterday under heavy security after visiting US peacekeeping troops in the northeast of the country earlier in the day.

Christopher, who is pressing rival leaders in former Yugoslavia to honor the terms of the Dayton peace agreement forged by US diplomacy, said he was pleased with its progress.

"In an overall sense I am very pleased with what I hear about compliance with the Dayton accord," he told reporters aboard his plane while in flight over Bosnia.

The secretary of state's visit to Sarajevo comes shortly before a midnight deadline for

the start of the handover of its rebel Serb-held suburbs, and other large swathes of Bosnia, from the control of one faction to another.

Apache helicopters patrolled above Sarajevo airport as he landed, and his convoy took a back road rather than the city's notorious "sniper alley". Peacekeeping troops have been the targets of a rash of sniper attacks this week.

Earlier Christopher spent two hours in Tuzla, the main US base in northeast Bosnia, and addressed several hundred American and allied troops who are part of the 60,000-member NATO-led force helping to implement the peace agreement.

He arrived in Zagreb on and held talks with Franjo Tudjman in which he urged the Croatian president to adhere strictly to the Dayton accord, saying economic benefits depended on Zagreb's compliance.

The Red Cross said on Friday it had found 88 unregistered Serb prisoners still in jail in Tuzla two weeks after all prisoners of war were supposed to be freed, a discovery likely to embarrass the Moslem-led Bosnian government during the visit.

## Russian miners end nationwide strike

MOSCOW (AP) - Russian coal miners ended their nationwide strike yesterday after the government promised to pour 10.4 trillion rubles (NIS 6.6 billion) into the industry, union leaders said.

The strike will resume on March 1 if the government fails to keep its promises, said Ivan Mokhnachuk, deputy head of the Union of Coal Industry Workers, which represents virtually all of Russia's 580,000 miners.

Miners went on strike Thursday to press their demands for hundreds of millions of dollars in back wages and other changes in their industry, still state-owned.

They were joined by miners in Ukraine in the biggest walkout in the former Soviet Union since the 1991 Soviet collapse. Ukrainian strikers were having less success in gaining concessions and union leaders said 880,000 remained on strike yesterday.

"We're on the verge of catastrophe," said Ihor Koblak, spokesman for Ukraine's Energy Ministry. "The whole ministry is working today, trying to think of a way out. Of course the wages must be paid," he said, but added that the government did not have the money.

In Russia, however, election-year pressures had officials willing to promise huge sums of money as they scrambled to end

the potentially devastating strike.

Caving in to miners' demands is fraught with potential pitfalls for President Boris Yeltsin, who is expected to announce his re-election bid soon.

"After the miners get this money, everybody will say, 'Why don't we go on strike to get what we want?'" said Sergei Markov, an analyst for the Carnegie Foundation in Moscow.

"That means that right before the (June) elections, we will see great disorder," he said. "It's very dangerous for Yeltsin."

Yeltsin appears to be taking a cue from Communists, who achieved success in December parliamentary elections with promises to restore large state subsidies.

The miners were back at work yesterday in many regions, said Vitaly Budko, the union head.

"We expect all miners to stop the strike," he said. "But we cannot guarantee this because in some regions people's patience may have already broken."

The decision to end the strike came in a narrow 6-5 vote during an overnight meeting of the miners' union, said Mokhnachuk.

"We decided to stop the strike until March 1 because the government decided to meet our demands," he said. "If the government does not fulfill them we will resume the strike."

## Foreigners march through Rome to protest deportation measures

ROME (AP) - Several thousand foreigners and sympathizers marched through Rome yesterday to protest new regulations making it easier to expel immigrants.

"Rights don't have borders" was one of the slogans carried on posters and banners by the marchers in the peaceful protest.

Police estimated their numbers at just under 10,000; organizers said about 30,000 joined in at some point.

In November, Premier Lamberto Dini's non-political government caved in to political pressure and toughened regulations on immigrants.

Behind the pressure was the Northern League, a regional party which sprang to prominence last decade on a platform that included bias against immigrants. The League threatened to vote down the 1996 budget if Dini

didn't toughen the immigrant law.

The protesters, many of them from North Africa, occasionally played drums or broke into song.

Italy's share of immigrants is modest compared to other eastern European nations like France and Germany. Illegal aliens number an estimated 350,000 in a country of 57 million citizens. Many of them take jobs Italians don't want, like picking vegetables in the south and cleaning houses, hotels and restaurants.

## US: North Korean people are starving

SEOUL (AP) - Eager to head off a food crisis in North Korea, US National Security Adviser Anthony Lake arrived in Seoul yesterday to push a plan for emergency aid to the communist country.

The South Koreans are skeptical of the north's claims of impending famine stemming from last summer's floods and say food aid could end up feeding Pyongyang's 1.2-million-member military, the world's fifth-largest.

But Washington reportedly fears a famine in the north could lead to military adventurism, and announced a \$2 million humanitarian assistance package for Pyongyang.

A South Korean official told the national news agency Yonhap yesterday that the government had not expected the United States to

move so quickly in providing aid. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

Arriving yesterday at Kimpo Airport on a four-day trip, Lake did not answer questions from reporters. South Korean officials refused to comment on details of the consultations.

But news reports, quoting unidentified government sources, said Lake will stress the need for quick aid for the North, based on intelligence reports that its food crisis will reach a peak around this spring.

Lake will meet with his South Korean counterpart, Yoo Chong-ha, Unification Minister Kwon Ok-kye and Foreign Minister Gong Ro-myung tomorrow. He was also expected to meet President Kim Young-sam before leaving for Ja-

pan on Tuesday.

South Korea maintains the North is exaggerating the flood damage, while its military is keeping huge food stockpiles that could be released for the public in emergencies.

South Korean officials also cite North Korea's refusal to reopen dialogue with Seoul and stop its anti-South propaganda. They have also said the North can sustain its food rations until September.

"Seoul will not oppose if the United States or Japan decides to give the North small-scale humanitarian aid through international agencies," Foreign Minister Gong Ro-myung was quoted by Yonhap as saying yesterday. Gong is attending a ministerial conference in Phuket, Thailand.

North Korea has said the heaviest floods in 100 years last summer affected nearly one-fourth of its 22 million people and caused property damage estimated at \$15 billion.

## IRA denies attack; Irish FM urges UK to move

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## PERSONALIA

Full of wit and humor, nostalgia and contemporary Israeli subjects, these books should appeal to every fan of the three brilliant columnists.

WITH PREJUDICE - from the column by Alex Bariny, where he was regularly 'bolshyching' about anything he wanted. His mind is either a source of erudition or a rubbish dump, depending on your point of view, but every column is a masterpiece of wit, erudition, anecdotes, quotes - a pleasure and a challenge to a literary reader. Published by Jerusalem Post/Carta. Hardcover, 255 pp. JP Price: NIS 24.00

TIME OF MY LIFE - educated in the open university of life, Wim van Leer presents the significant episodes from the story of his life, which, like a mosaic, add up to a total that is greater than the mere sum of its parts. Published by Carta/The Jerusalem Post. Hardcover, 285 pp. JP Price: NIS 24.00

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# China quake kills at least 200

News agencies  
BEIJING

AN earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale yesterday killed more than 100 people and injured at least 200 in a remote and scenic mountain region of southwest China, local officials said.

"The death toll is now more than 100," an official of the local government in Lijiang, near the epicentre of the tremor, said by telephone. "And at least 200 people have been injured," he said. "The number of casualties could still rise a little."

Thousands of people, including many left homeless when their houses collapsed, were spending the night in the open for fear of aftershocks, he said.

The quake hit at 7:14 p.m. near Lijiang, a county seat and scenic area in Yunnan, about 2,200 km southwest of Beijing, the Central Seismology Bureau reported.

The bureau said the quake had a preliminary magnitude of 7.0, higher than the 6.4 reported by the US Geological Service. A magnitude-6 quake can cause severe damage and magnitude 7 is considered a major quake, capable of causing widespread, heavy damage in populated areas.

A number of old houses had collapsed and that water and electricity supplies had been disrupted.

Lijiang is near the northwest corner of Yunnan, an isolated area of rugged mountains and precipitous river valleys. The area is not heavily populated, said Ma Tianming of the earthquake center.

Local officials reached by telephone late last night said they did not have any information about the quake's impact.

The seismology center was dispatching a team to investigate and to monitor for possible further earthquakes, Ma said.

The quake caused another town, Zhongding city, to lose contact with the outside world, Xinhua said.

A 6.5-magnitude earthquake hit Wuding, another Yunnan town, on Oct. 24, killing 51 people, injuring 808 and seriously damaging almost 200,000 buildings.

At another disaster site, relief workers yesterday scoured the rubble of a central China apartment block obliterated when an illegal dynamite cache blew up, killing about 100 residents and injuring some 400 others.

Rescue officials said they would continue digging as hopes dimmed of finding anyone still alive nearly 72 hours after the blast, which occurred on Wednesday evening in an illegal explosives warehouse

in the basement of an apartment near Shaoyang city in central Hunan province.

"We're still digging as I speak," a rescue coordinator said. "We pulled four people out on Friday night," he said by telephone from an office near the site of the explosion.

A spokesman at Number One People's Hospital said the four dug out on Friday night were in serious condition.

The Hong Kong-based Chinese language newspaper Wen Hui Bao reported that the death toll stood at 119, but officials at the Shaoyang suburb of City-South, where the explosion took place, declined to confirm the report.

"I can't confirm those reported figures, but they are not correct," an official said by telephone.

Rescue team spokesmen on Friday said the death toll was sure to rise as soldiers dug through the rubble of several collapsed five-storey buildings. But they said reaching a final casualty tally would be difficult because many migrant workers failed to register their residency.

Local officials and media said they could not update the official toll, which on Friday evening stood at 77 dead and 400 injured, with 117 admitted to hospitals in serious condition.

"We couldn't get any recent figures because there are no newspapers on Saturday and Sunday," a hospital official said.

Yesterday few domestic newspapers apart from the English-language *China Daily* mentioned the disaster, the bloodiest in a series of dynamite and gunpowder blasts that killed about 70 people since 1994.

The dead from the blast were believed to include a laid-off worker, He Geng, who ran an illegal explosives firm and had stored 28 tonnes of military dynamite in the basement of the apartment.

Officials said he had received a large consignment of explosives in lieu of money from a cash-strapped debtor and stored them illegally in the basement.

It is not uncommon for private mining families in China to store explosives and detonators in their homes, which has contributed to a nationwide plague of mining accidents. The province of Hunan is dotted with private mines.

Television news said investigators were trying to determine what sparked the explosion, which cut water and electricity.



A view of the downtown Minneapolis skyline, from above the Mississippi River, on February 2. The high temperature in Minneapolis is expected to be -15 degrees Fahrenheit, dropping to approximately -30 to -40 degrees Fahrenheit during the night. No significant warmup is expected until next week.

# US Midwest shivers in record low temperatures

CHICAGO (Reuters) - Bitter arctic weather enveloped the central and midwestern United States yesterday and snow again blanketed the capital and other Eastern cities.

There were record lows reported across the country and television stations cautioned residents against such problems as "eye-lash freeze" and warned that the killer cold could freeze jewelry to flesh.

In Lincoln, Nebraska, it was minus 30C - the lowest temperature recorded in 110 years.

In International Falls, Minnesota, the thermometer plunged to minus 34C, but with the windchill factor it was much colder.

Forecasters at privately-owned Weather Services Corp said the arctic winds would shift from the Midwest to the East over the next few days, providing some relief

early next week for those shivering in Chicago, where the mayor declared a cold weather emergency on Friday, it was minus 26C overnight. At least seven people have died in fires in Chicago while trying to keep warm.

The city was practically a ghost town with people staying home to stay out of the frigid temperatures. One tow-truck driver said he put cushions from his vehicle in the microwave oven to warm them otherwise they became stiff and extremely uncomfortable.

Washington, D.C., the nation's capital, was blanketed in 15-20 cms of snow - much less than last month's 53 cms snowfall, which caused federal government to close down and paralysed air, road, and rail travel in the area.

Washington's two airports were both open yesterday, but by early

morning only one runway was open at each and delays were reported at both.

In New York, officials expected up to 25 cm of snow. Average annual snowfall is about 35 cm in New York, but the city has already had 113 cm so far this year.

A coastal storm dumped more than 30 cm of light snow along the New Jersey shore, forcing the closing of Atlantic City International Airport at least for the morning.

Philadelphia International Airport was open, but individual airlines were forced to cancel or consolidate some flights.

In the Southeast, residents awoke to one of the coldest mornings in a decade. Temperatures ranged from the single digits in Tennessee (and the Smoky Mountains to the teens and 20s in Alabama and Georgia.

# Deal made after Guinea troops attack president

CONAKRY (Reuters) - Mutinous soldiers in Guinea surrounded and shelled President Lansana Conte's palace yesterday, but state radio later said an agreement had been reached and all soldiers had been told to return to their units.

The radio in the mainly Moslem West African country, which had hitherto remained silent or played martial music, said in the afternoon that the two sides had struck a deal following a pay dispute that developed into an apparent coup attempt. But it was not immediately clear whether all fighting between disident soldiers and Conte loyalists had ended. The fighting began in the capital Conakry on Friday and at least 20 people were killed, according to medical sources.

"People of Guinea, the Guinean Armed Forces have just held negotiations in the famous Alpha Yaya Camp with General President Lansana Conte, commander in chief of the Armed Forces," the radio said.

"The negotiations have led to an agreement. All soldiers must immediately return to their respective units," added the report, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation. "Long live General Lansana Conte; Long live the Guinean Army."

The army revolt was West Africa's third in three weeks. Those in Sierra Leone and Niger were fully fledged coups.

Conte, 61, seized power in a volatile, impoverished Guinea in an army coup in 1984 after the death of Marxist leader Ahmed Sekou Toure, who had ruled since

independence from France in 1958.

He survived a 1985 coup attempt and launched reforms backed by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

He won a 1993 election, during which scores of people died in clashes and the opposition cried foul, but his Progress and Unity Party (PUP) won 71 of parliament's 114 seats in a June 1995 election and since then the country had been largely calm.

Conte told Radio France International early yesterday that loyal troops had repulsed three attacks on his palace by besieging rebels during the night, but he remained in control. Shell fire set the palace ablaze on Friday night.

"For the moment, until now I have the power that the people granted me," he said before shelling resumed.

The rebels controlled the deserted center of Conakry, witnesses said. Several shops were looted. Diplomats reported the sound of fighting from the airport, which was closed.

Most of the 20 dead were civilians, hospital sources said.

On Friday, Conte met the mutineers' demand that he sack Defense Minister Lieutenant-Colonel Abdourahmane Diallo, a close associate, and promised their demands for more pay would be met.

"I have been informed that there are some soldiers who are disrupting the situation in the country by trying to seize power," he told state radio at the same time.

# Troops guard Tajik capital

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan (AP) - Government troops massed yesterday on the outskirts of the Tajik capital in an apparent attempt to prevent attacks by two regional warlords seeking the ouster of corrupt officials, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

Thousands of troops, some with armored vehicles, were posted around Dushanbe, and checkpoints were strengthened.

The city was calm but tense, with most stores closed and the streets virtually deserted.

The Russian-backed president, Emomali Rakhmonov, told parliament Friday he would consider major changes in his government as demanded by the two warlords.

Rakhmonov also told lawmakers that the political turmoil that has engulfed this former Soviet republic on the border with Afghanistan in recent days could lead to a military coup.

Forces led by warlord Mahmud Kludoberdyev were reported to have advanced to within km of

Dushanbe on Thursday.

ITAR-Tass reported they were 30 km from the capital yesterday, apparently having retreated while awaiting the government's response to their demands.

Rakhmonov told parliament he would consider the resignation of some government members, including the defense minister, his chief of staff and a first deputy prime minister.

However, he said he would make changes only after meeting with the two warlords: Kludoberdyev, leader of an army brigade based near Kurgan Tyube; and Ibdullo Boimotov, a former mayor of Tursun Zade.

The two warlords seized the towns south and west of Dushanbe a week ago.

The president, a former Communist boss and hard-liner, is under extreme pressure from the two warlords, who helped bring Rakhmonov to power but now accuse his government of being corrupt and incompetent.

# Survey: Mistrust and misinformation mar US society

DAVID BRISCOE  
WASHINGTON

MOST Americans have a distrustful view of each other, their government and their future, according to a new survey that also uncovers a broad lack of knowledge about government.

If the results are accurate, a majority of Americans don't know who represents them in Congress, how long they'll be in office, the name of the nation's vice president or even which major party is the more conservative.

On top of that, 63 percent think most people can't be trusted, only one in four has any consistent trust in the national government, and only 10 percent express high confidence that life for their children will be any better than it has been for them.

The study conducted by Harvard University, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and The Washington Post provides one of the most pessimistic views yet of the mood of this politically polarized country.

The Post, with a series of five front-page headlines last week, devoted several full pages to the report which suggests that much of the anger that has shaken up American politics may be based on ignorance.

This is particularly true of some foreign policy views, including the strong tie against foreign aid, against support for the United Nations and against cuts in defense spending.

The survey provides the latest evidence that Americans have very little understanding of how many of their tax dollars go into foreign aid or what progress has been made towards world peace.

Asked whether the federal government spends more on the federal health program Medicare or on foreign aid, 58 percent said Medicare. In fact, Medicare accounts for about 13 percent of the federal budget, while all foreign assistance amounts to less than 2 percent.

Asked to guess the amount of foreign aid, the responses averaged 26 percent. And asked how much it should be, the average of all answers was 13 percent.

Taken alone, it could be said that Americans would like to see foreign aid increased more than sixfold. But that obviously is not a sentiment many would express.

The findings are not new, but the fact that they were compiled by a prestigious university, a reputed research organization and a major American newspaper gives them new impetus in the national debate.

The Post, describing America as a "nation of suspicious strangers," reported: "Less informed Americans are more inclined to see the world as an especially cold and threatening place, a view that directly shapes their attitudes toward defense spending and America's place in foreign affairs."

Analysis of the survey showed that 30 percent of those with low knowledge of government believe the threat of a major war has increased in the last 10 years, while only 10 percent of those with a higher knowledge hold such a belief.

Even more striking, 52 percent of the less-informed believe the United States should stay out of world affairs, while only 22 percent of those who showed more basic knowledge about their government share that view.

Post columnist Richard Cohen, in analyzing the report, said it would lead to the conclusion that "America is not only the last, best chance of mankind but also the dumbest nation on earth. It is peopled by dolts who bellow at their government but know next to nothing about it."

The good news, he said, is that it shows a direct correlation between knowledge and participation, with the more knowledgeable far more likely to vote.

# British UFO fans elated

LONDON (Reuters) - British UFO enthusiasts were delighted yesterday when an official committee admitted it was baffled by a pilot's report of a lighted, wedged-shaped object flying near his Boeing airliner.

"Despite exhaustive investigations the reported object remains untraced," said the report by the Joint Airmass Working Group of the Civil Aviation Authority.

A British Airways Boeing 737 was approaching Manchester airport in northern England on January 6 last year when captain Roger Wills and co-pilot Mark Stewart saw the object.

It approached the right-hand side of the aircraft at high speed from the opposite direction. "The first officer (Stewart) instinctively 'ducked' as it went by."

"It made no attempt to deviate from its course and no sound was heard or wake (wind turbulence) felt. He felt certain that what he saw was a solid object - not a bird, balloon or kite."

It said Wills described the object as having "a number of small white lights, rather like a Christmas tree."

# Gene Kelly dies at 83

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Gene Kelly, 83, who splashed through puddles with athletic exuberance in *Singin' in the Rain* and kicked up his heels in *On the Town* and *Anchors Aweigh*, has died.

A former ditch digger whose choreography grew so influential even Madonna and Michael Jackson consulted him, Kelly died at home following strokes suffered over the last two years, publicist Warren Cowan said.

Born in Pittsburgh in 1912, Eugene Curran Kelly started dancing as a child. He worked as a dance instructor, service station attendant and ditch digger. While studying at the University of Pittsburgh, he took part in campus musicals and entered talent contests in a dance act with his brother Fred.

After graduating in 1933 and dropping out of law school, he danced with his brother in theaters and nightclubs and helped at his mother's dancing school. He was sponsored by a dance director who brought him to Broadway. He made his debut in the 1938 Cole Porter musical *Leave It to Me*. Then it was on to Hollywood.

After serving in the Navy's Photographic Section during World War II, Kelly reigned at MGM when the studio was the pre-eminent producer of movie musicals.

Unlike his older contemporary Fred Astaire, whose black-tie dance steps were elegant and measured, Kelly was a muscular regular guy whose joyful dancing captured the postwar mood.

Boysishly handsome and possessed of Irish charm,

he ran across the stage, jumped over furniture and did mad windmills with his arms, often wearing white socks, loafers, rolled-up short sleeves and khakis.

"He once told me dancing was a man's game, as much of a spon as baseball itself," Liza Minnelli said. "And he made us believe that. He changed our minds and suddenly, all of America wanted to dance just like Gene Kelly."

His most enduring cinematic image was an exuberant, rain-drenched spin around a streetlight in 1952's *Singin' in the Rain*.

Other memorable performances came in *For Me and My Gal* (his 1942 screen debut opposite Judy Garland), *Anchors Aweigh* in 1945, *On the Town* in 1949, and, in 1951, *An American in Paris*, which won eight Academy Awards, including best picture.

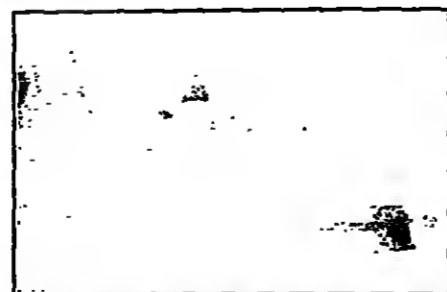
Kelly gave a bravura performance in *An American in Paris*. He created the dances, including a 17-minute ballet with Leslie Caron to George Gershwin's music.

"I've always held that you shouldn't underestimate the intelligence of the movie audience," Kelly once said. "That's where Hollywood has made a mistake. I remember how everybody thought we were nuts to put that big ballet number in *An American in Paris*."

The film won the Academy Award as best picture of 1951, and Kelly was given a special award "in appreciation of his versatility as actor, singer, director and dancer, and especially for his brilliant achievements in the art of choreography on film."

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אמצעים

# Israel rises another computer level Appearance is up, taste is down for fruit

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVITCH

Israel's graduation from ordinary computers to supercomputers is like the transition from propeller-driven airplanes to jet aircraft. The two new supercomputers dedicated on January 23 at Tel Aviv University promise to raise the country's already high level of scientific research and industrial performance by a giant step, allowing local researchers to compete with the best in the US, Europe and Japan.

The supercomputers - selected by a Science Ministry-appointed committee of experts - are an IBM RS/6000 SP/2 with 64 processing units that can perform over 17 billion calculations per second and a Cray T3E supercomputer with 16 processing units able to carry out 3.2 billion calculations per second. The two work very differently and are suitable for a wide variety of uses; when obsolescence sets in, as it inevitably does with computers, they need not be discarded but can be upgraded with additional processing units.

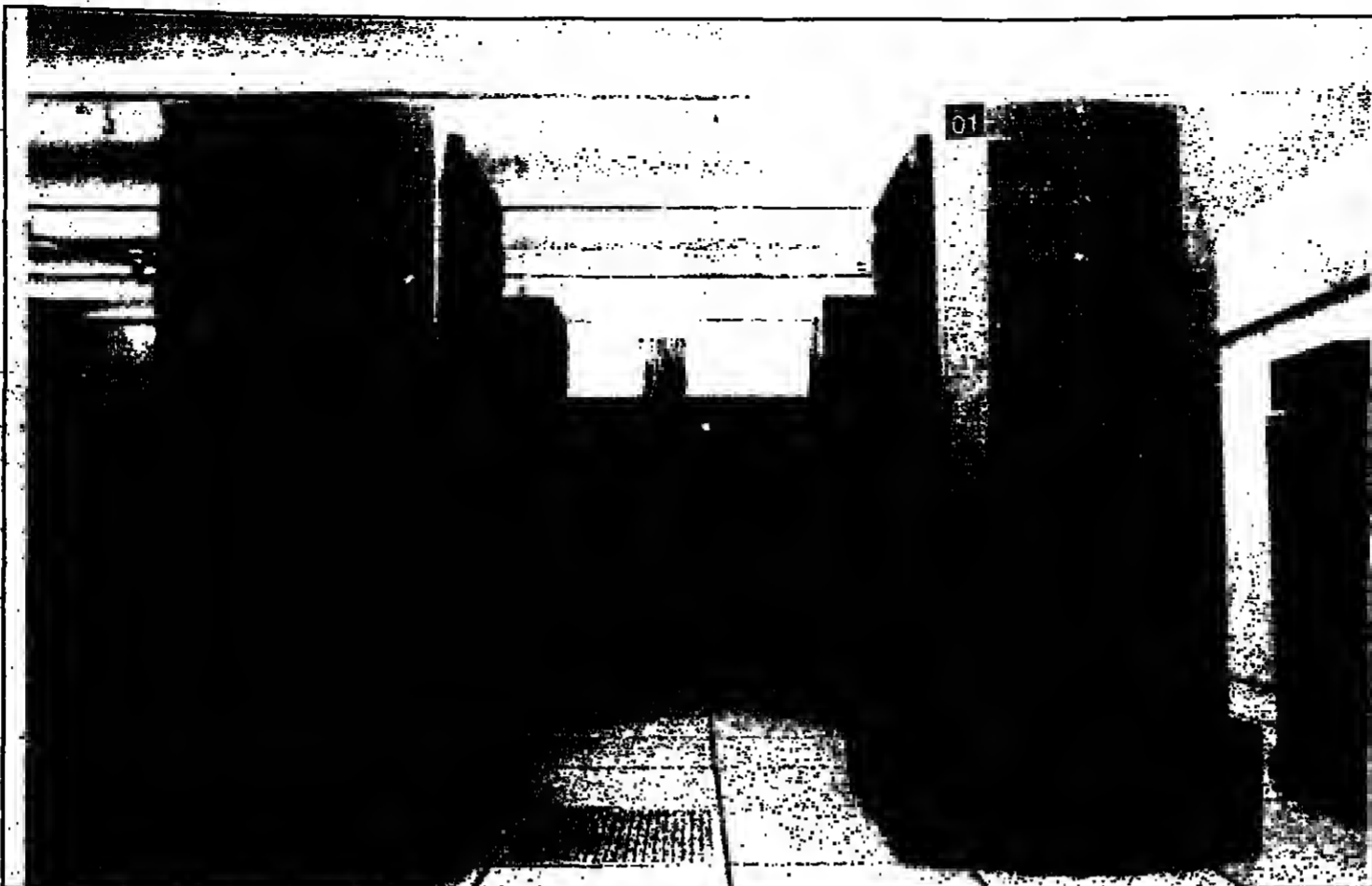
Scientists here have waited breathlessly for the two supercomputers, but long-standing US government policy had barred their sale to Israel for years for fear that they would be used to design nuclear weapons. The official reason was that Israel had failed to sign the nuclear disarmament pact. So we were in "good" company on the embargo list, along with countries like Pakistan, Syria and Libya.

Two years ago, Science and Arts Minister Shulamit Aloni encouraged late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin to discuss the issue with the Clinton administration, and it was given high priority. The ministry decided to allocate \$3 million a year over the next three years for the project in the hope that it would be approved.

The Oslo Agreements and the peace treaty with Jordan helped the Israel-friendly Clinton administration to change its mind, and the US Commerce Department issued export permits to IBM and Cray.

Zvi Yanai, a computer buff and director-general of the Ministry of Science and the Arts, says that TAU will probably not be the final resting place of the Cray computer.

"In this era of computer communications, a decision to keep a supercomputer out of the Negev is pretty anachronistic. One can contact it by modem from many kilo-



Scientists here have waited breathlessly for the two supercomputers that recently arrived at Tel Aviv University.

ometers away," Yanai says. "We hope that in a few months, the Americans will allow the Cray to move to Ben-Gurion University, where it will contribute to the development of science and technology in the Negev."

Yanai says no one is worried about the Americans sending teams to see that the conditions of the contract are being carried out. "We have nothing to hide," he declares. "The supercomputers - whose hardware cost a total of \$3 million but whose total costs for software, installation and siting them to our needs will reach NIS 40 million - are to be used strictly for civilian purposes."

Their main purpose is scientific research, but we will encourage industry to buy computer time for their own research and development. For the foreseeable future, there is no justification for industrial firms to purchase their own supercomputers. We hope our two new ones will pay for themselves over time and be profitable."

The potential uses of supercomputers are endless. One use, that the public can easily understand and enjoy, is video on demand. Instead of renting a videotape, one will be able to press buttons on a small device attached to one's phone line and TV to order any of thousands of programs for immediate viewing while the phone remains usable for conversation. A supercomputer could store a gigantic library of films in its memory.

But this is only the whipped cream. The bread-and-butter work of supercomputers is to create mathematical models that make it unnecessary to build real models for testing. Drugs can be designed with molecules exactly fitting receptors in the body like a lock and key, instead of a variety of actual drugs being tried out on animals and humans. Safe bridges and buildings can be designed by computer, without testing their ability to withstand stresses.

Economists can use the giant brains to simulate changes in the economy and the stock markets. Scientists will be able to predict weather accurately and earlier using models worked out by supercomputers.

Instead of building a wind tunnel to design the most aerodynamic jets or cars, a supercomputer will figure everything out in its processing units. This will greatly speed up development of new products and cut costs.

"It will no longer be true that a picture is worth a thousand words; a picture will be worth 100,000 words, as the supercomputer will make calculations and translate ideas into images," he says.

The ministry plans to organize seminars for chiefs of industry to impress upon them the benefits of research and development using supercomputers.

And we will not lack competent people to work on supercomputers, the director-general adds. "In the US, there are 75 engi-

neers and technicians per 1,000 people, and in Japan 33," he says. "But in Israel, we have 133."

As for Israel's place among supercomputing countries, "we are now respectable in the middle," Yanai says. "The US, Germany and Japan have supercomputers that can carry out 70 or 80 billion calculations a second, while ours have less power. But the IBM and Cray we purchased are twice as powerful as those we had originally intended to buy."

There are apparently no other supercomputers in the Middle East, thus Israel's two could become an attraction for scientists in the region.

"There's no reason why Jordan, for example, couldn't buy computer time from us," Yanai says. "We haven't received any requests yet, as the whole thing is very new. But there's no reason why our neighbors would prefer to link up to supercomputers in Europe or the US instead of cooperating with us."

## Appearance is up, taste is down for fruit

TELL ME WHY  
JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVITCH

Why are fruits here much less tasty (although, I admit, better looking) than they were 10 or 20 years ago? Marvin, Ra'anana.

Prof. Yosef Mizrahi of the Department of Life Sciences and the Institutes for Applied Research at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheva replies:

Over the past few decades, fruits and vegetables of all types have been bred to look good, spoil slowly and be a desirable size. Plant breeders and farmers have not tried to develop fruits and vegetables that taste better because such work is more difficult and less profitable. Making produce that has a good color and size and a long shelf life is relatively easy - it involves only a few genes. But developing tasty produce can take decades because many genes are involved.

These genes produce natural chemicals that are responsible for the fruit's flavor. Not only does doing this take decades, but great-tasting fruits and vegetables usually have a low yield and are thus not as profitable as poor-tasting ones. For example, there was an excellent loquat here, but its shelf life is only a few days; the more recent strains are not as tasty but they last longer.

It would be possible for a grower to develop a really tasty product and to give it a brand name, but there is no certainty that the demand for it would make his investment worthwhile financially.

This is not just an Israeli problem; it exists throughout the developed world. If you go to developing countries, where farmers and scientists have not been tinkering with produce, you can still get delicious fruits and vegetables.

Why do tea leaves settle in the middle of the cup after you stir the tea? Carmela, Tel Aviv.

Prof. Yacov Kantor of the Tel Aviv University's school of physics answers:

When the tea is stirred in the cup, centrifugal force is created. To hold the liquid, the cup puts pressure on the sides of the cup and weaker in the center, so, when the tea stops

twirling, the leaves drop like sediment in the center of the cup.

Why do bananas stay in good condition for several days when kept unwrapped, but turn black within a few hours when packed in a bunch bag? Sybil, Jerusalem.

Dr. Yair Aharoni, an expert on food storage at the Volcani Institute for Agricultural Research at Beit Dagan, comments:

Bananas, just like other fruits and vegetables, spoil as temperatures rise. When you put a banana in a closed lunch bag, the temperature rises as the banana "breathes" - absorbing oxygen and producing carbon dioxide.

In addition, bananas and other produce produce a natural gas called ethylene. This is a natural ripener and, in fact, processors use synthetic ethylene to ripen fruit.

In a closed bag, this gas becomes concentrated and ripens the banana. This effect, however, takes longer than a few hours.

Reader Yosef Ya'acov comments on a previous question about perfect pitch. The question was answered by an expert at the Rubin Academy of Music:

The questioner was correct in defining having perfect pitch as being able to carry a tune correctly and to spot a "sour" note.

Most people have some level of relatively correct pitch.

However, the expert's definition that perfect pitch also includes the hearing in one's head of the note is, also commonly known as A above middle C - and thereby identifying a musical key - is not correct. That is absolute pitch, something different and very rare.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, c/o Jerusalem Post Science & Technology Reporter, Judy Siegel-Itzkovitch, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem, or fax it to (02) 389527. Please include your first name and place of residence. Calls will not be accepted.

## Women still in lower echelons of medical field

HEALTH SCAN  
POST HEALTH REPORTER

Local medicine is increasingly becoming a women's profession, thanks to the growing number of women in medical schools and the aliyah of many female doctors from the CIS.

However, because of the women doctors' family obligations and conservatism in hospitals, most of them fill posts in community clinics and as lower-level hospital doctors and medical-school lecturers, while men continue to rule the higher echelons.

These are the conclusions of a study of the status of women in medicine, produced by Neeta Notzer and Suzanne Brown of the medical education unit of Tel Aviv University's Sackler School of Medicine, published in a recent edition of *Harefuah*.

The authors note for centuries medicine was considered a male profession. But the last decade has produced major demographic changes in local medicine, and the proportion of women among all doctors is near the level of European countries. However, relatively few are senior hospital physicians and medical-school professors.

They note that if objective criteria are used to test medical knowledge and ability - such as the percentage of women who pass medical school and licensing exams - women are as competent as men.

But fewer women are admitted to residency training, and they are poorly represented in medical specialties. For example, only 16 percent of surgical residents are women, compared to 23% in the US, and only (ironically) 19% of gynecologists are female, compared to half in the US.

The authors say senior hospital and medical school doctors are reluctant to hire women who "give birth and whose first priority is their families," even though male doctors are absent for reserve duty. Working in community clinics or as independent physicians is more convenient to married women and mothers, but some who want to go farther have difficulty being accepted.

There is room for implementing objective standards for acceptance for residency training, the TAU researchers conclude: "this would help equalize the status of women in the Israeli medical establishment."

### US MEDICINE TURNING FOREIGN

Meanwhile, a huge influx of foreign-trained doctors is causing an

oversupply of physicians in the US, threatening to discourage young, talented Americans from going into medicine. According to a report issued by the private Institute of Medicine, the number of doctors in the US has doubled over the last 25 years to nearly 650,000 - largely from the immigration of foreign-trained medical school graduates. Many start as hospital interns and residents and remain there to practice.

Dr. Neal Vanselow, professor of medicine at Tulane University School of Medicine and a co-chairman of the study committee, said the number of foreign graduates who come for residency training "is equivalent to the graduating classes of 50 foreign medical schools, and 75% of those who come for training remain to practice. This decreases the opportunity for talented young people from [the US] to enter the medical profession and may deprive other countries of the services of their own youth."

The surplus of US doctors, however, has brought little improvement in the cost and quality of, or access to, health care in the US, the study concluded. Having more physicians has not meant having more care of the right kind at the right place or at the right cost.

### IN-HOUSE HELP

Two hundred and fifty Filipino women will be brought here to take care of geriatric patients in their homes, according to an agreement by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh and Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir. The chronically ill elderly have been waiting for admission to geriatric hospitals, but government funding to cover this has not been available.

The program will begin in the Tel Aviv area, where some 1,100 sick elderly are waiting for institutionalization. Throughout the country, some 2,000 require such care. Namir, who has for years been reluctant to allow the import of foreign workers, agreed to the program on an "experimental basis." Public companies will be allowed to make arrangements and bring the Filipino women here. The cost of treating one patient in a geriatric hospital is NIS 6,000 to NIS 6,500 a month, according to the Health Ministry. The cost of a Filipino caretaker, including airfare, is NIS 3,500 to NIS 4,000.

## 'Post' switches to new computerized system

ON LINE  
DANIEL BAUM

The Jerusalem Post is currently switching over to a new computerized layout system.

For the past few months, all of our weekly supplements, such as the weekend *Magazine* and the *Time Out* entertainment supplement have been produced entirely on Macintosh computers. Now we are beginning to produce the daily paper on the new system. Every day new pages are produced on the new system, including the one on which this column appears. Hopefully, you will not have noticed any difference.

The Post has actually been produced on computer for several years. The AteX mainframe which we are in the process of getting rid of was capable of limited pagination, but was mostly a multi-user text-editing system. Its disadvantages, apart from being old and decrepit, are that it is expensive to run, and can't handle whole pages with pictures and ads. It also has a primitive user interface on its pagination program, which was difficult to learn and made training hard. Furthermore, as AteX is no longer in business, making maintenance and upgrades a big problem.

The new system is entirely Macintosh-based, except for the system servers - the central computer on which all the shared files are stored - which are PCs.

Layout is done with Quark Xpress, while editing is done with a special newspaper editorial system called Q-Edit, produced by a British company formerly known as QED, and now known as IPA Systems.

Using the new system, we are able to design a whole page on a WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) display, including pictures and adverts. The layout editor can be sure that the picture on the page is properly cropped and placed, that the columns in a story line up at the bottom, and that the different stories on a page are lined up with each other. Rules are always straight, and the corners of boxes always meet.

The Q-Edit system is one of the few in the world that allow more than one user to work on a Quark Xpress page at once. This is crucial in a newspaper production environment, where some stories on a page may be ready for layout, while others are still being edited, and others haven't been written yet.

Thus, while the layout editor may have one or two stories laid out, he may simply have left space for another story which is still being edited. The sub-editor (who edits raw copy) is given an indication by the sys-

tem of how long a story needs to be fit in the space which the layout editor has allocated for it, and can cut it to fit.

Black-and-white and color pictures are scanned, and inserted into the page. Eventually ads will be automatically paginated by a special database system which we have not fully implemented yet, although the classifieds are already being produced with it.

Once a page is finished, it can be proof-read on an A3 laser printer, and finally output in its entirety on an image setter, a device similar to a very high-resolution laser printer, which prints on photographic film instead of paper. The film is then made into a plate, which the press uses to print the paper.

The use of the image setter has two other effects - we are now virtually self-sufficient in the production of color photos and ads, and there has been a great improvement in the quality of black-and-white photos. Previously, color work had to be sent out to outside service bureaus. Needless to say, this was expensive and time-consuming, which was the reason there was not much color in the Post.

Now that we can prepare them in-house, reasonably cheaply and quickly, we are able to use much more color. As for black and white, the image setter achieves a far higher quality than is possible either with the traditional "bromide," or with a laser printer, a method we tried for a few months but gave up because of poor quality.

System administration on such a system is not difficult, but it is very different from looking after the old mainframe. Each computer on the system is independent, and can have its own faults and quirks. While this means that the entire system will virtually never be down, it is quite a challenge to keep up with the foibles of every computer on the network.

While the new system is far more versatile and flexible than the old one, especially for layout editors, the biggest plus, as far as I am concerned, is that the pages produced actually look better than they used to. Furthermore, the system being composed of standard equipment is compatible with a vast variety of peripherals and software, making enhancing it in various ways in the future simple.

Daniel Baum is computer systems manager at the Jerusalem Post. He can be contacted at [dbaum@nevision.net.il](mailto:dbaum@nevision.net.il)

## Pick your accent for computerized voices

NEW WORLDS  
POST SCIENCE REPORTER

Anyone who asks Bezeq for a phone number knows what synthetic messages are: words are put together by a computer to provide information untouched by human hands. But Bell Laboratory scientists have taken a giant step further - computerized visual human images can speak their message in any of 11 accents and nine languages.

The technique, developed by Dr. Gialin Zong and a team of AT&T scientists, increases human comprehension of computerized speech by human models. People are better able to relate to talking faces, even if such beings don't exist.

The faces have human-like expressions that can show emotions, such as joy and anger. The deaf can even read their lips. According to Bell Labs, the technique will help the hearing disabled to take part in video conferences and practice speaking. The potential of other uses is limitless - from giving automatic bank teller instructions to computer teaching in schools.

### COMPUTER BABYSITTER

Bug Multisystem's Comfy keyboard, meant until now for children aged three to six, is now usable for babies as young as a year old. Babies aged 12 to 24 months will happily press the colorful, large-sized keys on the heavy-duty plastic keyboard and

the second level includes a voice-over and gives instructions; while the third encourages users to understand and reach conclusions. At this age, they won't easily tire of the repetitiveness. The software, which can be used only with a Comfy keyboard, costs NIS 109.



answer the red plastic "phone" as they enjoy an interactive program specially designed for them.

The software, which comes on a CD-ROM and is called *Touch-n-See*, will probably disappoint older children, as it doesn't tell a long-playing animated story like the other Comfy programs. However, it does stimulate babies and younger toddlers using colors and sounds and help them to differentiate among various friendly cartoon characters.

The program can be used at three levels, depending on age and abilities. The first presents the colors, sounds and images;

### BUSINESSLIKE ENGLISH

Israeli businessmen who know basic English but don't feel comfortable about their ability to use technical language can now get help. Edusys, the company set up by Bug Multisystem and Edusoft, has produced a new CD-ROM program for them.

Called *English+ Business*, the NIS 199 software is based on the highly successful *English+* programs for teaching English to youngsters from fifth grade through high school.

This new program, also suitable for advanced English students who are not in business, uses the same formula as the previous CD-ROMs - lessons on grammar, reading, speaking and listening.

Vocabulary lists include many terms related to legal problems, business deals and technology. Very user friendly, it contains hundreds of hours of study. It uses animation, drills and tests of knowledge. The disk is available at Bug and other selected computer software shops.



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Prospects and dangers

THE diplomatic achievements of the Oslo process are undeniable. Morocco and Tunisia have established diplomatic relations with Jerusalem, albeit on a low level, and the Gulf emirates Qatar and Oman have trade relations with Israel. In an interview published on Thursday, Kuwait's information minister Sheikh Saud Sabah, praising Israel for its restraint during the Gulf War, said "relations with Israel are inevitable... Israel is an established fact in the region." True, the emirates are conditioning official relations on an Israeli peace treaty with Syria and Lebanon, but it is difficult to imagine that these strides will be reversed in the foreseeable future.

But the peace atmosphere also encourages the world community, most pertinently the US, to believe that equipping the Arab states with state-of-the-art weapons no longer endangers Israel. If the realization of Prime Minister Shimon Peres's vision of a regional union similar to the EU and a regional alliance similar to NATO is imminent, there should be no reason to worry about Israel's qualitative superiority. After all, the regimes which until recently were considered potential enemies are now viewed as potential partners and allies.

Yet the professional echelon of the security establishment is obviously not quite as sanguine about these developments. Last week David Ivry, director-general of the defense ministry, met in London with CIA director John Deutch to press Israel's case against the sale of US-manufactured spy satellites, as well as pictures taken by American satellites, to Arab countries. Peres himself had met with Deutch in Washington two months ago to plead for limiting the sale of sensitive technology to the Arab regimes so that Israel's qualitative edge would not disappear.

Unconcomitantly, the administration is unhappy about the development of an Israeli satellite program because pictures taken by a sophisticated Israeli satellite can compete with US satellite pictures on the commercial market. But if Israel does not develop its own intelligence gathering, it will be wholly dependent on American discretion for vital information in time of crisis.

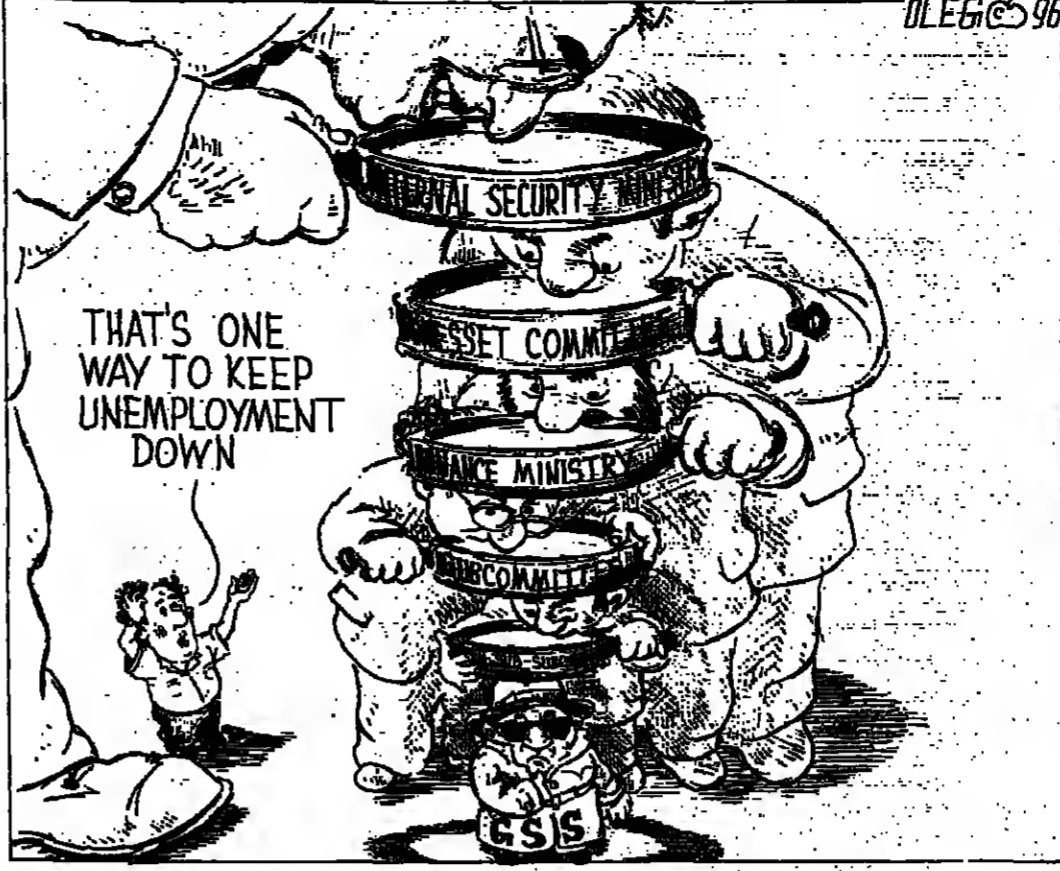
Nor is technology the only area in which the ambience of peace seems irrelevant. Yesterday

in Davos, Peres met with FBI director Lewis Perry to stress Israel's acute concern about the flow of money from Islamic organizations in the US to Hamas. Since the Fatah-Hamas agreement (the kind of pact Yitzhak Rabin said would cause the cancellation of the Oslo accords) is now an established fact - with Hamas-affiliated candidates elected to the Palestinian Council and a Hamas leader slated to serve in Yasser Arafat's cabinet - the request to halt the flow of American funds to the Islamic organization may seem puzzling. The inconsistency is particularly evident because Peres advocates American taxpayer aid to the Palestinian Authority with vigor and conviction.

Peres also devoted some time in Davos to complain to Egypt's foreign minister Amr Moussa about the anti-Israeli tone of the Egyptian press. Moussa responded by stating that there were anti-Egyptian manifestations in the Israeli press but the comparison is invidious. Not only is the Egyptian press government-controlled while the Israeli press is free, the analogy is similar to comparing murder with jaywalking.

The Egyptian media accuse Israelis of spreading AIDS in Egypt, corrupting its youth with the help of prostitutes and drugs, and spying on its industry and military. It routinely compares Israeli conduct to that of the Nazis and accuses Israeli diplomats of murdering Egyptian prisoners of war. The Israeli press attacks Egypt mostly for allowing such incitement - a violation of the peace treaty - and for failing to live up to the normalization provisions of the Camp David accords.

That Peres, who tends to view Israel's relations with the Arab world through rose-colored glasses, has found it necessary to bring up the subject with Moussa is encouraging. Farly, it is undoubtedly intended to project an image of toughness and realism before the election. But Peres must also realize that the rhetoric emanating from the leading Arab state 17 years after the signing of the peace-treaty is incompatible with the vision of a new Middle East. Last week he indicated that this applies to Arafat's rhetoric too. He told newsmen that he had suggested to Arafat to look in the dictionary for a better word than "jihad" to describe his thirst for peace with Israel.



So much for promises

DAVID BEDEIN

THE anger that boiled over during the demonstration by Ethiopian Jews in Jerusalem last Sunday may have had something to do with the economic morass in which Ethiopian Jews and other immigrants now find themselves.

Those who have worked intensely with Ethiopian Jews know that honor, trust, and credibility will often determine the level of patience they will maintain, despite all the difficulties associated with the absorption process.

When that trust breaks down, the gentle posture of a patient immigrant can turn into outrage. That is what we witnessed outside the Prime Minister's Office.

Ethiopians and other immigrants had been promised that the loan guarantees obtained from the US in August 1992 would go a long way toward solving their economic distress, that they would be used to provide vocational training and create jobs.

In lobbying for the loan guarantees, Israeli representatives spoke of the trials and tribulations of immigrant absorption that the funds would alleviate.

The effort was so intense that then-president George Bush commented in an exasperated speech on September 13, 1991 that he felt like the entire Jewish world had descended on Capitol Hill, and that he was more than overwhelmed with unprecedented pressure to grant approval to the loan guarantees.

Malcolm Hoenelein, executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, later described the loan guarantee battle as the greatest victory of the American Jewish lobbies.

When the US government fi-

nally approved the loan guarantees - after the Labor Party's ascension to power - Congress placed severe restrictions on the use of the funds, specifically restricting them to immigrant projects, while allowing the Israeli government to use a "reasonable sum" for infrastructure development.

But none of the \$5 billion which has already been provided to Israel under the loan guaran-

tee package has been used by the Israeli government for direct immigrant economic development.

INSTEAD, the loan guarantees gave Israel's banking system (taken over by the government after the bank shares scandal) greater liquidity and willingness to extend credit to corporations, small businesses, and private individuals.

Thanks to the guarantees, the banks have been able to provide generous loan terms so that Israeli consumers can more easily purchase automobiles, foreign travel packages, or speculate on the stock market.

Some \$800 million of the loan guarantees was used for the expansion of Israel Electric Corporation, which had been privatized, even though its stock is

owned mostly by the Ministry of Energy. More loan guarantee money went to the expansion of the road system. Yet another \$200 million went to plans for a Tel Aviv subway.

The destination of much of the loan guarantee money has not been published. The 1995 State Comptroller's Report notes that the government has provided no accounting for \$1.4 billion that it allocated during 1993-94.

In May 1994, Natan Sharansky, the head of the Zionist Forum, a coalition of immigrant organizations, accused the Israeli government of misusing the loan guarantees. He said it would have been difficult to campaign for the loans under the slogan: "Let them build highways."

Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban has said that the loan guarantees are being administered in such a way as to be able to cover any deficit incurred by the Israeli government for any reason, even though specific clauses of the US legislation specifically forbid use to help cover Israel's budget deficit.

People who have raised concerns about how the guarantees are being used have received one standard response: All allocations have been with US government approval. That means the president and State Department, not Congress, have approved such use.

The government has used the loan guarantees to encourage conspicuous consumption instead of advancing immigrant absorption. No wonder immigrants have lost faith in Israel's political system.

The writer, director of Israel Resource, a media firm, worked in immigrant absorption from 1973 to 1986.

English first

ANDREW WARD

A few years ago Donald Trump's octogenarian mother was mugged in a New York shopping mall and rushed to the hospital. Struggling to treat her injuries, her doctors were dismayed by the delirious gibberish she was spouting. They feared she might have suffered some permanent damage to the speech center of her brain.

As her son tried to come to terms with this possibility, an Irish nurse appeared, listened a moment to Mrs. Trump's ravings, and announced that there was nothing wrong with the old lady's brain. In her shock and rage, the former Mary Macleod of the Scottish Isle of Lewis had simply reverted to her girlhood Gaelic.

I've been struggling to figure out what it is that disturbs me about the campaign to make English the national language of the US.

I think there are some serious arguments in favor, some of them advanced by successful first- and second-generation immigrants who believe, with pride, that only by entirely discarding their native language and mastering English could they have partaken of the American dream.

But the most voluble proponents, some of them legislators,

Language is akin to identity

are another matter. Just as the Nazis, the Klan, skinheads, and other boosters of the master race tend to be some of the planet's least prepossessing Caucasians, so the most ardent champions of English as the national tongue tend to mangle what's left of the language.

They dangle their participle and misplace their modifiers and follow the local anchor-person's principle that the most awkward sounding disposition of pronouns - "Neither him nor her were available for comment" - must be correct. Perhaps once you make language official, it inevitably begins to sound like the language of officials.

Through my education in the English language has been a slapdash do-it-yourself project. I bow to no one - not Edwin Newman, not William Safire - in my protective love of the mother tongue, and will face down any deranged and idle reader who may now choose to pore over my every published utterance for egregious grammatical mistakes.

WHEN we talk about language we are really talking about identity, and making English the US's national language suggests that Americans are Americans only to the extent to which they know English.

But what should most be cherished about America - the promise of freedom and justice and opportunity - is cherished most, I think, by its most recent immigrants: the Korean grocer, the Cambodian cook, the Italian sales clerk down the street.

What does their clumsiness with this complex and unfamiliar language have to do with their being Americans, with their wholehearted embrace of American principles, with their braving the unimaginable to come to the US?

And if it is required that in exercising certain rights, immigrants must entirely discard their own language, how exactly will America be the richer for it? Woo! it only serve to further isolate Americans, the least multilingual of peoples, from the rest of the world?

I worry that Americans are becoming too fractionalized.

Sometimes it seems that just as America once said no to its minorities, its minorities are now, in a sense, saying no to America, and each seems to be striving for a dangerous degree of separation from the rest.

But I can't help thinking that the English-as-a-national-language movement is a symptom of the same impulse. It tells immigrants they are not welcome until they have ceased to discomfit others with their strangeness, as if the herds of America's cohesion as a nation rests not with those who have been in the US long enough to do something about it, but with those who have just arrived.

(Washington Post)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MISTRUST THE SYRIANS

Sir, - I have been a Labor supporter since Ben-Gurion and I am a Labor supporter today. But I feel that the following considerations cannot be repeated often enough so that the government may take heed of the strong opinions of its own supporters where the Golan problem is concerned.

Syria waged two wars of aggression against Israel and lost both. It also lost territory - the Golan - which Israel annexed and settled. Syria must sue for peace which, in view of past experiences, Israel may be reluctant to grant, certainly not without irrevocable guarantees.

Peace with Israel must be the only "reward" which Syria can hope to achieve. It certainly cannot lay down any conditions. The Golan should be considered compensation for the loss of blood and equipment which Israel suffered as a consequence of Syria's aggression. Syria should consider it lucky if Israel magnanimously forgives reparations for the two wars which Syria foolishly initiated.

If Syria does not sue for peace as a result, let the status quo prevail until "the Messiah comes" or a new regime in Damascus sees the balance of power in its true light. Israel can easily, and ad infinitum, live without formal peace with Syria. The present cold peace will suffice even though Israel's dream of a new Middle East will not then materialize in the foreseeable future.

American efforts to lure Syria to the negotiating table by offering it cash and other goodies are undignified and must be disregarded by Israel.

Even if Syria came "cap in hand" to sue for peace, I would still paraphrase Laocoon: "Whatever it may be, I mistrust the Syrians even if they bring presents."

DR. BERTHOLD WYLER Jerusalem.

ARCH-TERRORISTS

Sir, - Were the crimes of "the Engineer" Yitay Ayyash more grievous than those of Nayef Hawatmeh, George Habash and Abu Abbas, the arch-terrorists whom Mr. Peres has allowed "residency in Palestinian areas" (January 21). They - and President Arafat - have shed far more Jewish and Arab blood than Ayyash.

Our prime minister is somewhat inconsistent. Tel Aviv. STUART GRANT

REHABILITATION OF THE BLIND

Sir, - I have recently completed a special course for the rehabilitation of newly blinded adults at the Center for the Advancement of the Blind in Safed which sponsors this project with the Department of Social Welfare and Migdal Or in Kiryat Haim. Participation in this program was an unforgettable experience in learning the techniques of orientation and mobility, and overcoming the severe challenges which face us as we gradually lose our eyesight.

During the first days of the program, we made considerable progress in our ability to function and as time went on, we progressed in every phase of learning how to cope with blindness, forming a framework of enrichment in many areas.

Our self-confidence and spirit, which vanished with the sudden loss of our sight, returned to us considerably. The failure to function in daily life, until we came to this program, disappeared by the end of the course and we went home with positive feelings about ourselves because we had attained the ability to function as normal, seeing people. In addition to a comprehensive program of rehabilitation, we learned to do all sorts of things usually not taught in the visio-handicapped. We learned to use the computer and to do handicrafts. We learned folk dancing and many other things. The program taught us that, for every one of us, in spite of being blind or visually impaired, life can go on in every respect, if we want it to. We learned how to reconstruct our lifestyles, physically, socially, psychologically and vocationally. We learned to live comfortably in the sighted world.

In the name of all the participants to this program, I want to express thanks and appreciation to all those involved in this special work and particularly, I want to express gratitude to the staff which made extraordinary efforts to make our stay at the Center for the Advancement of the Blind in Safed a productive and encouraging one in a program which was conducted from early morning until late in the evening. We were moved by the patience, unusual warmth and affection which permeated the days during the entire time of the program.

SIMCHA OSHRY Petah Tikva.

RESTORATION WILL COME

Sir, - I am a new subscriber. It is my belief that the time has come to look to the Middle East for the focus of human destiny. Your newspaper is the one most likely to provide clear coverage of what will prove to be eternally-sinking news. You are at the epicenter of everything that has been foretold and is coming to pass.

I am amazed at what I read on the pages of your publication. Of all of God's created beings, the Jews are the most privileged. What other people are called by Chosen People by God? Jews have the original Covenant from God and are promised so much by Him.

Yet nothing has changed from days of old. His People today are just as stiff-necked and mostly infidels as were those who danced around the foreign god in the time of Moses.

In the days of old, as His People obeyed Him, God did wondrous things in their behalf. This gross disobedience, a historical record of unbelief, has brought nothing but tears and suffering.

My prayers are that His People will soon repent (a lost word) and reclaim their privileges in that forsaken Covenant from God. Humility does not come naturally to modern man, so I am so fearful that great tragedies must be inflicted as the ancient prophets spoke.

Buying and selling, negotiating and politicizing, seeking strength in commerce and weapons, none of that made the Hebrew nation great when Yahweh was their Lord. He alone sustained them and made them great. That greatness departed when His people turned away from Him.

But the promises foretell renewed greatness for Israel to come. That restoration will come soon. WENDELL LEPIC Delavan, Wisconsin.

SMOKING IN THE KNESSET

Sir, - Michal Yudelman's January 19 article on the unhealthy air in the Knesset is true, but did not explain the greatest danger, smoking. Smoking is permitted in corridors; guards smoke while working and people smoke in the no-smoking area of the cafeteria.

Hopefully, the Knesset members will set a better example for the country to follow. PETER SINGER Jerusalem.

POSTSCRIPTS

A HAMSTER named Sweep got a free pass in Birmingham, England. Never again will he have to pay for his trip to school.

Embarrassed his company executives hand-delivered the pass and an apology to 11-year-old Wayne Bass, who had been obliged to fork over his pocket money to pay a fare for Sweep. It left him without enough money to get home.

Wayne had taken the class pet home for the weekend and was returning him to school when an over-zealous his driver insisted

he pay 36 pence for Sweep - 9 pence more than Wayne's own fare.

"I was very surprised when he asked me for the money because Sweep is only a baby and was in a small cage," Wayne said.

West Midlands Travel company executives went to Wayne's school to present the hamster with his own travelcard, with his picture on it and his name.

The driver had been a hit hasty, they said sheepishly. "Animal travel is at the discretion of the driver but clearly it

does seem a bit silly to charge for a hamster that is under control," said a company spokesman.

THE OWNER of a wandering cat has bought a telephone card for her flighty feline so people can phone home and say where it had strayed to.

Beryl Venters said Cagney was always going missing from her home in Winchester, England. So Cagney now has a chargecard on her collar, so that "anyone who finds her will be able to phone me and tell me where she is without having to pay," she said.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



The well-groomed man knows where to get that personal touch: at Jerusalem's Biblical Zoo.

Handwritten signature: JAYICO



Justice 12/25

THE JERUSALEM POST

A review of commentary and humor from American Press Syndicates

# AMERICAN OUTLOOK

Sunday, February 4, 1996

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## Uncovering Hillary's future

BY ROBERT NOVAK

President Clinton has told a friend that the White House residential quarters where his wife's long-lost Whitewater billing records were found, far from being a restricted area, is "like Grand Central Station," with all kinds of people traipsing through the premises.

This contradicts White House aide Carolyn Huber, who found Hillary Rodham Clinton's subpoenaed papers on a table in the executive mansion's book room. Testifying to the Senate Whitewater Committee, she indicated only the president, the first lady and perhaps overnight guests, other than maids and butlers, were in this area. In contrast, the president indicated to his friend that almost anybody on his staff might have put the papers on the table.



STIFFED BY NEWT

House Speaker Newt Gingrich has not spoken to Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin for several weeks.

The reason given privately by Gingrich is that he no longer trusts Rubin and feels any conversation with him is a waste of time. The nation's No. 3 constitutional official not being on speaking terms with the Cabinet's second-ranking officer is without precedent.

Rubin, a longtime Democratic activist, is regarded by congressional Republicans as the most partisan Treasury chief in memory. He has newly antagonized GOP leaders with a new ultimatum threatening default unless Congress raises the debt ceiling.

DOLE'S GAFFE

Relations between Sen. Bob Dole's Iowa campaign and Ione Dilley, state chairman of the Christian Coalition, were ruffled after his campaign exaggerated the importance of her endorsement of Dole for president.

Dilley announced she would be a Dole delegate in Iowa's curtain-raising caucuses Feb. 12, but turned down a request that she become state chairman of Families for Dole. That followed a directive from Ralph Reed, the coalition's national chairman, against playing an active role in any campaign.

The Dole campaign's press release sought to give the impression that Dilley would be a key figure in Families for Dole. The front-running senator's managers wanted a boost from the potent Christian Coalition, whose members are split among Phil Gramm, Pat Buchanan and Dole.

MAIL POLITICS

Newspaper readers raised eyebrows last week when they saw a U.S. Postal Service ad bailing the Jan. 30 Senate election in Oregon and declaring, "Voting by mail is an idea whose time has come."

Oregon's vote-by-mail balloting is a controversial idea not supported by congressional mandate. But the Postal ad goes into the lobbying business, with this admonition: "If voting by mail works in Oregon why not in other states, or even nationwide?"

Frank Brennan, postal spokesman, denied to this column that his department has endorsed the idea of voting by mail and dismissed the message in the country's top-25 markets as "advertising copy."

Robert Novak is a nationally syndicated columnist of the Chicago Sun-Times.

## Flippers

### Democrats lose their way on welfare

BY PAUL OFFNER

They're writing welfare reform's obituary. The omnibus budget bill, thought to be its most likely vehicle, looks like it's run aground. Two weeks ago, when the Republican welfare plan reached the president's desk as a separate bill, he vetoed it, prompting The New York Times' Robert Pear to suggest that the battle was over ("The President's action concludes a four-year drama...").

The prognosis is premature, though. As the president signaled in his State of the Union speech, he still wants to sign, and claim credit for, a welfare bill before November. So do the Republicans, and the congressional Democrats, having long since abandoned their welfare reform principles, are in no position to prevent a bad bill from passing.

The impasse can be traced back to last summer, when President Clinton realized that his welfare reform proposal was dead and that the Republicans were about to fulfill his commitment to "end welfare as we know it" without him. So he worked out a deal with Sen. Bob Dole that threw the Democrats a few crumbs — a little more money for day care, a prohibition against states making drastic cuts in welfare spending and a rainy day fund to cover caseload increases during recessions. In return, Democrats swallowed the Republican program whole — no more federal guarantee for poor children, a freeze on welfare funding and a five-year limit on cash benefits, which will eventually drop 3 million children from the rolls. Incredibly, Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle called it "an improvement over what we've got now." The president foolishly endorsed it, adding that it contained "critical elements" of his own plan. The Senate vote was 87 to 12.

By December, however, Democratic senators were having second thoughts about their Faustian bargain. The bill that emerged from a House-Senate conference committee would "hurt children, weaken families and cripple state budgets," charged Senator Jay Rockefeller. "A step backward," said Senator Bob Graham. "Punitive," added Senator Russell Feingold. None of them (nor thirty-two other Democrats) seemed troubled by the fact that they had voted for essentially the same bill just three months earlier. What big changes had been made since then? "None," said Pat Moynihan, the Senate's welfare expert.

In defending their about-face, Democrats cite cuts in day care funding. This is a favorite ploy because everyone loves children. But there is almost no difference in day care funding between the welfare bill they supported and its evil twin that emerged from conference. The Congressional Budget Office, now run by Gingrich-Dole appointee June O'Neill (no liberal sbe) has said all along that most states won't be able to meet the bill's ambitious work requirements because the funds just aren't there.

The Democrats have other complaints about the conference bill, but they don't amount to much. The legislation was changed so that states must put in only 75 percent of the funds they are now spending on welfare (it was 80 percent in the Senate bill). And while the Senate left the issue of family caps (no additional dollars for additional kids) up to the states, the conference committee mandated family caps unless the legislature and governor decide otherwise — which comes to the same thing.

Some have suggested that it was an administration study showing that the Republican bill would add 1.5 million children to the poverty rolls that led the Senate Democrats to flip-flop. Fearing its influence, conservatives ridiculed the study on the grounds that it assumed no change in behavior — "They're assuming welfare reform won't work," said Senator John Breaux. On balance, though, it's hard to believe the study changed many votes. Senators may not be welfare whizzes, but they don't need a study to tell them that a \$60 billion cut in AFDC, Food Stamps and Medicaid will increase the poverty rolls.

The Democrats switched because their attack on Republican extremism was working, Clinton's poll numbers were rising, and they decided they could stand up to the Republicans even on a matter as sensitive as welfare. But it's hard to take them seriously. Having voted once for the Republican plan, their outrage at what is essentially the same bill sounds hollow. Indeed, many Democratic senators voted against it with the expectation that the GOP plan would return — either as part of the budget bill or as a separate bill — and that additional sweeteners would give them cover to vote for something, and thus redeem their credentials as welfare reformers.

The fact is that while its defensive strategy has worked so far, the Democratic Party has lost its way on welfare. Clinton and the congressional Democrats know that the existing system is broken, but they have no plan to fix it — at least none they're willing to fight for. They want to protect

poor children, an estimable goal, but that alone does not constitute a welfare reform strategy. Their main objective is simply to deprive the Republicans of a victory, either by branding their program extremist, or by claiming it as their own.

It was not always so. Three years ago, Clinton proposed a plan to put welfare recipients to work, and acknowledged that it would cost money — to train people, to create jobs, to provide day care. The funding was too low because Clinton feared the big-spender label, but it was the best of all the welfare bills introduced in recent years. Unfortunately, though, welfare reform took a back seat to health care reform, and the result was a disaster. (See "They Blew It," Mickey Kaus, TNR, December 5, 1994.) Throughout the long debate on the budget, too, the president's focus was on Medicare and Medicaid; welfare reform came second.

Granted, he got little help from moderate Republicans who shared many of his views on social policy. Two years ago, 10 Republican senators, led by John Chafee and Nancy Kassebaum, wrote the president and reminded him that the welfare system was there to protect children. Last year, when faced with the Gingrich welfare bill, they met constantly, wrote letters and groused endlessly. When the conference report came up in the Senate, they wanted "a better package that isn't so hard on legal immigrants... and does a better job of protecting children," according to a Chafee aide. But with just two exceptions (Mark Hatfield and Ben Campbell), they voted for the bill. Throughout the debate, they held the balance of power — the defection of just three more would have changed the outcome in the Senate. But when push came to shove, they weren't there.

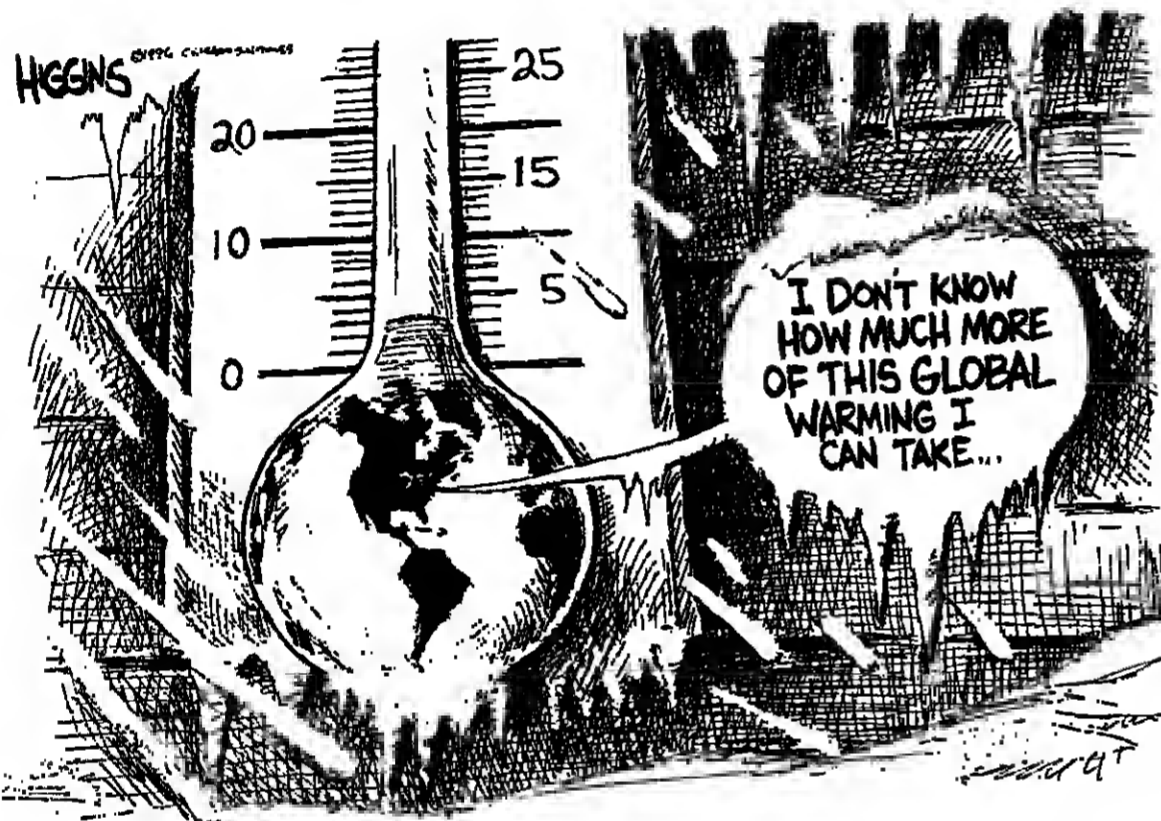
You really can't blame them, though. After all, it was Clinton who raised expectations with his call to "end welfare as we know it," who let the subject languish during the first two years of his presidency, and who cut that awful deal with Dole last fall. After that, how could the Chafees and the Kassebaums be expected to fight on against their own party's leaders? About all we can hope for now is that nothing passes, and the whole issue is put off until 1997. By then, maybe, the Democrats will have come up with a welfare policy they'll stand up and fight for.

Paul Offner is the District of Columbia's Commissioner of Health Care Finance.

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# EDITORIAL CARTOONS



# Global vision

BY MARTIN PERETZ

Shocked! Shocked! Captain Reoault exclaimed when he came face to face with illegal gambling in Vichy-run Morocco. By now, this memorable line of feigned surprise uttered by Claude Rains in Casablanca, has become a universal cliché for what, in fact, no longer shocks at all. Except, of course, when it seems to stun those who have made a fetish of the innocence and idealism of the truly bloodthirsty and cynical. No respectable daily publication in the U.S. has painted a more consistently flattering portrait of the Palestine Liberation Organization and a more consistently unflattering portrait of Israel than The Boston Globe. So, to be consistent, the paper was virtually compelled to become a cheerleader for the ascendance to on-the-ground power of PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat. But, even for the editorialists at the Globe, there are some limits to tolerance of Arafat's offense. The Fatah Hawks, his thug militia, can kill ordinary men and women with impunity. But just let one of them touch a newspaperman!

Arafat crossed this line when the head of his political police, an accomplished terrorist named Jibril Rajoub, imprisoned Mather al-Alami, editor of Al-Quds, the most popular Palestinian newspaper. The reason? The Globe got it only partly right. According to its version, a story about Arafat's meeting with the Greek Orthodox patriarch of Jerusalem was put in Al-Quds's back pages when the chairman's handlers thought the report deserved front-page treatment. This incarceration established a new criminal standard for punishment. The Globe was not only surprised. It was also "desolated." That's because it believed its own blather about the Palestinian "hunger for (an) . . . open society," for which the clearest evidence is photographs of mere tots brandishing rifles in the streets of the West Bank.

The part of the al-Alami story the editorial page editors did not tell and the part that so excited the Palestinians was that Patriarch Diodoros I had, in his session with Arafat, compared the Chairman to Omar Ibn al-Khattab, the seventh-century Muslim conqueror, which is to say, the liberator of Jerusalem. The patriarch fawned over Arafat because Palestinian Christians fear for their future under Muslim rule, and fawning is the preferred form of defensive diplomacy in the Arab Middle East. Over the last decades, Christian Arabs have been fleeing the Holy Land by the tens of thousands, grasping finally that Palestinian nationalism is just another version of Muslim piety. Christians were in the vanguard of almost every Arab nationalism and of pan-Arabism precisely to prevent such an outcome. In fact, the more virulent expressions of secular Arab nationalism were often the creations of Christians fearful of Muslim dominance. They felt they could keep the tiger at bay by feeding him. And they fed him with a new and toxic diet: Germanic ideas about Volk and anti-Semitism. The secular, all-embracing doctrine of nationalism was to make citizens of them all. Muslims and Christians alike. But all to no avail, everywhere.

The rise of Palestinian

nationalism augured the departure of Palestinian Christians, a result not anticipated by the man who first articulated its ideology and did a good deal of the feeding himself, a half-learned Christian pedant called George Antonius. (His weird story is now being written by Fouad Ajami.) Ecco Bethlehem, where Jesus was born and which was always a Christian city, is now down to a Christian population of 35 percent. A powerful recent article in The New York Times Magazine by Andre Aciman tells us why. The Holy Land Christians know the bitter history of Christians in neighboring Egypt, in adjoining Lebanon and in not-so-remote Iraq (where there were once 2 million faithful of the Assyrian Church, either murdered or, as Pat Moynihan once pointed out, with lucky descendants in Chicago). So they move on, where they still can, to Canada or Australia, where they will deny the cruelties that drove them out. But some cannot go and will stay hoping against fear. Of course, Arafat knows of this fear - how could he not? - but does nothing to assuage it. Especially for Christmas, he had his minions drape his massive visage, Mao-style, over Manger Square.

The Christians of Jerusalem are in a special predicament. For years they assumed that the entire city would remain under Israeli sovereignty. So they made their accommodations and vented their grievances. During the Shamir government Jewish ultras gave them plenty to be aggrieved about. But there was no doubt then about Jewish resolve on the ultimate status of Jerusalem. Now, however, that Shimon Peres seems to have put just about every option on the table, many Palestinians believe they will get some sovereign political foothold in Israel's capital. So, in recent months, several thousand of Jerusalem's Christians - and not just Christians - have exercised the option all Arabs of Jerusalem have had for decades. Fearful of being trapped in Arafat's state, they have become citizens of Israel.

The irony is that, just as the will-do-anything-and-everything doves are contemplating just that over Jerusalem, much of the rest of the world seems ready to accept sovereign Jewish title. The present mayor, Ehud Olmert, has just returned from Sao Paulo, Montevideo and Buenos Aires, where the mayors of these cities (and the presidents of the countries they are in) joined in celebrations of Jerusalem's trimillennium. Observing 3,000 years since a tiny town was made "the city of the great king" (the king here was God, not David), as Jerusalem is called in Psalm 48:3, is a political act. That this is happening in Catholic countries is especially notable. In 1947, the price of Latin Support for the Partition Plan for Palestine was internationalization of the whole city. Now even the Vatican, not an institution exactly in step with world realities, has given up the ghost of this idea and accepted - with little grace, it is true - the political facts as they are.

There is an important principle involved here. Large clusters of people of every religion and of almost every nation are minorities somewhere. Many of them would wish it otherwise. That's what secession and irredentism are all about. But the cartography of politics is not the cartography of hap-

piness. Muslim Arabs are a minority in Jerusalem, and they've been that for centuries. It's not what they'd like it to be. Still, their fate is much preferable to that of Christian minorities in the world of Islam - or, as it happens, of Islamic minorities, sectarian or ethnic, in that same world. Think of the Shi'a under Sunni rule or the Sunnis under Shi'a rule or of the Kurds and Berbers who are out Arabs, which is all you need to know. And no Arab journalist will go to jail in a Jerusalem under Israeli rule for failing to put on his front page a fawning story about Shimon Peres.

The Globe calls most recent attempt to bully the Palestinian press mere "pettiness," saying also that it "belies earlier hopes and promises." But from Arafat's perspective, it was not petty at all. He does not fear the Christians; he fears the Islamic extremists. The analogy to Arafat with the Islamic conqueror of Jerusalem, coming as it does from the head of the oldest Christian communion in the land, is valuable coinage, the kind of minority tribute he can muster against his Muslim adversaries who doubt his devotion. As for what this bullying belies, it belies nothing. The Globe contrasts the Palestinians' expectations for themselves with the brutal ways of their neighbors. "Too many Palestinians know about the Lebanese journalist who had his hand dipped in a vat of acid for writing something displeasing to Syrian ruler Hafez Assad." This is simply factious. The Globe may not remember that a Palestinian cartoonist, Ali Najj al-Adhami, was murdered according to Scotland Yard, by terrorists from Arafat's own Fatah wing of the PLO in the summer of 1987. And what was his crime? He had been insolent to Arafat. There were other such cases during the seven telltale years of the Palestinian mini-state in Lebanon.

But all one need do to see the future is to think back two weeks. A pro-Jordanian newspaper in the West Bank, An-Nahar, was banned by the Palestinian Authority until its publisher, Othman Hallaq, recanted his views and tamed his daily to PLO discipline. And there is the less-known episode of a new publication in the new Palestine, Abna al Balad, or "Sons of the Land." It was founded by Nasser Eddin Nashashibi, a descendant of one of the two great warring Arab clans in old Palestine - the one that lost to the Husseinis, from which swaddling emerged Haj-Amin Hussein, the mufti of Jerusalem and a Nazi collaborator. (From this line also descends Yasir Arafat and the forgotten hope of the moderates, Faisal Hussein.) Nashashibi had gone into exile after Israel took over. But, with the Israelis leaving, he came back to try his luck in the new order. He and his magazine were hounded and harassed in ways common to the region; both are now gone. Mr. Alami was lucky. He was released after a week, not exactly coerced but chartered. Arafat had made his point. Cheer now, if you wish. But Palestine will, on any reasonable index of freedom, be much like those other great liberated areas of our time: Algeria, Vietnam, China, North Korea, Iran. The disenchantment has already begun - even in The Boston Globe.

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سكسان الامير









# Remembering Jordan

## U.S. Constitution inspired memorable oratory

By MICHAEL LIND

Yes, yes, the voice. "HER VOICE STIRRED THE NATION" read the headline of the front-page New York Times report of her death on Jan. 17. "A POWERFUL ORATOR, SHE GAINED ATTENTION AT HEARINGS ON NIXON," said The Washington Post on the same day. The Times went on to call her denunciation of Richard Nixon during the Watergate hearings "Churchillian."

All quite true. I remember the resounding indictment of South African apartheid delivered by this survivor of American apartheid at my University of Texas commencement exercises. Not only is hers the only speech of that evening that I remember — it is the only one of the many commencement addresses I've heard that I can recollect.

Still, there is something patronizing about remembering Barbara Jordan primarily for her delivery — patronizing and misleading, too. For though she was one of the great speakers, she was not one of the great talkers of modern American politics. Her speeches, though memorable, were few, and in response to the demands of a specific occasion. She did not emir poll-tested sound bites. Neither patter nor recitative were in her repertory. It was impossible to imagine her hosting a television show, like Jesse Jackson, or answering callers on a phone-in radio show, like former Gov. Mario Cuomo — to name only two of the other American politicians who are counted as orators in our time.

The obituaries have emphasized her declamatory style's debt to the tradition of Southern black preachers (like her father). Unless I am mistaken, she owed just as much to the other Southern tradition of courthouse and statehouse oratory, which preserved 18th-century Anglo-American Ciceronian usages long after they were abandoned in Britain and the Northeast United States. "If you were poor and talented," a childhood friend of Jordan's mentor Lyndon Johnson once told me, referring to the old days in rural Texas, "the way out was through the church, the courthouse or the statehouse." Unlike the many black leaders who began their public careers as ministers, including Martin Luther King and Jesse Jackson, Barbara Jordan, who earned her law degree from Boston University, chose the courthouse and the statehouse. The text that inspired her oratory was the Constitution, not the Bible.

"My faith in the Constitution is whole, it is complete, it is total, and I am not going to sit

here and be an idle spectator to the diminution, the subversion, the destruction of the Constitution." (Note the triple structure, favored by orators of the old school like Lincoln and Webster as well.) But not all of the obituaries that have quoted her great speech of July 24, 1974, during the Judiciary Committee's proceedings on the impeachment of Nixon, have noted that her paean to the document included a qualification: "We, the people." It is a very eloquent beginning. But when that document was completed on the 17th of September in 1787," she continued, "I was not included in that 'We, the people'..." Through the process of amendment, interpretation and court decision, I have finally been included in "We, the People."

How subtle, how lawyerly, and how important, to stress that the Constitution she was committed to was the Constitution as formally and informally amended, most recently by the civil rights revolution that paved the way for her to become one of the first two black Southerners elected to Congress since Reconstruction.

She was the first many times — the first to lead an all-black group to a draw in a debate with a white team from Harvard; the first black woman to be elected to the Texas state Senate; the first black woman to deliver the keynote address at a national party convention (in 1976, and again in 1992); "POLITICAL PIONEER BARBARA JORDAN DIES" — again, the Washington Post.

Like the obligatory references to her power as a speaker and to her courage in baring crippling illness, this list of breakthroughs threatens to consign Jordan to the role of symbolic hero in the kind of drama of identity politics that she rejected. Her stern denunciation of black racism along with white racism at the 1992 Democratic Convention represented the conviction of a pre-multicultural paleoliberal. "I'm neither a black politician nor a woman politician," she once said. "Just a politician." She skipped meetings of the Congressional Black Caucus, telling its members that she belonged to the Texas Caucus.

As a politician she was not just a Democrat but a Texas Democrat, from a tradition of centrist liberalism that is — or rather was, for it is now in decline. She supported Lyndon Johnson against the radical left in 1968 and helped keep the state delegation — correctly, in my view — on the side of the "hawks" during the Vietnam war. When, in 1988, she delivered the speech seconding the nomination of Lloyd Bentsen for the vice presidency, she

memorably expressed the "New Democrat" ideals that had been hers all along.

Her final public service came last summer, when the bipartisan U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform that she headed issued recommendations so balanced, so sound, so judicious that they immediately enraged the utopian left and the nativist right. She was not a great speaker who could make nonsense sound convincing, like William Jennings Bryan or Ronald Reagan. She was a great speaker who was usually right.

President Clinton's presence at the graceful memorial service in Jordan's home church in Houston prompted me, and no doubt others, to recall another recent funeral, the farcical ceremony in Yorba Linda that interred the president whom Jordan helped to bring down. The causes that Barbara Jordan fought for are losing out to the forces that Richard Nixon unleashed. The Congress that Jordan ennobled with her presence and sobered with her reasoning is controlled by affluent radicals who have twice shut down the government in order to cut taxes further for millionaires and billionaires, and a Speaker whose idea of oratory is to accuse the opposition party of responsibility for grotesque murders by psychopaths. Jordan's friend and patron Lyndon Johnson, who did more for ordinary Americans, black and white, than any American politician this century save Franklin Roosevelt, has been followed as Senate Majority Leader, and will possibly be followed as president, by a man whose only public emotional effusion in a long career has consisted of weeping for the dead Richard Nixon.

Barbara Jordan was unique in many ways, but not in the most important — or so we must hope. For in the struggles to come we will have need of leaders like her.

Michael Lind is a senior editor of The New Republic.

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# Congress fumbles budget bluster

By RUTH SHALIT

As many federal departments and agencies lurch into their fifth straight month without the necessary appropriations to do their job, the leaders of both parties are spending less and less time searching for a compromise that will balance the budget, and more and more deciding how to use the impasse to their advantage during the coming campaign. On Jan. 22, Newt Gingrich assured an audience of conservative think-tankers that Clinton's failure to reach a budget agreement would assure congressional Republicans an "annihilating re-election" in November. Democrats, buoyed by public relations successes during the recent budget skirmishes are no less cynical. "You're dealing with people who are screwing you every day on Whitewater," consultant James Carville counseled Clinton, according to an account in The Washington Post. "Why are you giving them so much?"

Remember the deficit? As recently as a year ago, it ranked third — behind crime and unemployment — in a Gallup Poll that asked voters to name "the most important problem facing the country." In the wake of the protracted budget showdown, it's back on voters' radar screens. In a Gallup Poll conducted between Jan. 12 and 15, it topped the list of voter concerns (crime is now a distant second). On prudential political grounds alone, then, you'd think Clinton and the Republicans would realize that a year-long stalemate will fuel further voter alienation and an incumbent rage. There's also, of course, the small matter of the economy; the much-ballyhooed Clinton economic boom; its strength now in question, could be endangered if financial markets are again shaken by foundering budget talks.

Rather than succumbing to the narcissism of small differences, Washington's budget pugilists should take the rhetoric down a notch and look in the savings both plans have in common — precisely what the president proposed in his State of the Union address. Leaving aside the radical freshmen, with their genuine, principled commitment to dismantling the New Deal by forcing the government into default, the differences between the president and Congress are far less dramatic than both sides are pretending. When Clinton released his first budget last June, a vast fiscal and ideological gulf separated him from the Republicans. In their April conference, the Republicans had proposed a tax of \$440 billion in discretionary savings programs. The Clintonites countered with \$208 billion. But in their January budget, the Republicans pared their proposed cut down to \$349 billion; and Clinton upped his offer to \$295 billion. That's a difference of only \$54 billion — mere pennies, when it comes to the giant federal check-writing machine. It's the same story with Medicare: The gap in projected savings between the two sides has been whittled down from \$146 billion to \$44 billion. And so on with welfare and other anti-poverty programs; a gap of \$69 billion is now a mere \$17 billion. And there is, of course, another sense in which the budget disputants are closer than they'd like to admit. Both proposals spare one of the major culprits in the advancing entitlement juggernaut. Social Security — nearly 20 times as large as Aid to Families with Dependent Children — is off the table by bipartisan consent.

As Robert Reichauer, former head of the Congressional Budget Office, explains, the oft-repeated argument that it is not the amount of money which separates the two sides but differences over the rules by which it is spent is also nonsense. Though Clinton has refused to endorse the GOP's far-flung crusade to block-grant all health benefits to the states, he has followed the Republicans' lead by agreeing to allow Medicare beneficiaries to choose among a spectrum of plans — not including the Republicans' cherished MediSave accounts, but including HMOs and various other capitated health plans. He has agreed to cuts in provider payments that by 2002 are as deep as those in the Republican plan. And he's endorsed a per-capita limit on Medicaid spending, which would rein in the lavish open-ended grant system currently in place.

Judging by the apocalyptic rhetoric of the GOP freshmen — "Pound these guys"; "Don't give them an inch," according to The Washington Post — you'd think the budget mess was about a thunderous clash of political philosophies. Maybe it was once, but not anymore. At this point, it's no puzzle why rank-and-file Republicans are digging in their heels. As they see it, they led the charge for budget balance, and Clinton has managed to steal the credit. But they should look on the bright side. If he cuts a deal with them, the president will have to live with the consequences.

Ruth Shalit is an associate senior editor of The New Republic.

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SENTA MADE OEBRIS SLASH  
 AVIATE ALEE ARRANT YEMPO  
 LITTLEROCK GRANGGIEOPRY  
 OTTO LINK MAJOR GORGE FLAT  
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 SIREB SANG PORT MOURNED  
 AGGRAVATE PASO PARR ILA  
 MAE ROBE URIS TONY AGLIN  
 AVON NOMINAL JINK ARHOC  
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 OETERIE BRASITZ PARR GOTT  
 ORR TAPA FORE MERO GOTT  
 WRITERSBLOCK DEADHANGED  
 SOLAR ORIOLE ABLE RAISE  
 ELLEN MITTEN PEEN STROD

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# Warmth of soul and spirit at Earth's coldest point

Science provides food for the mind, but navy chaplain Mark Smith must cater to the spiritual needs of more than 1,000 Americans working at the biggest US base in Antarctica.

Smith, in his second full season on the ice, sees his job as helping residents cope with the "human drama" of living in an isolated community away from friends and family.

Bereavement and marriage break-ups, of which he has seen a number this year, are two of the biggest traumas that people can face in Antarctica.

"We are the only source of counseling here. If we can't help them get through, they have to be shipped back home," Smith said in an interview.

Although Smith, 38, is a Presbyterian, the tiny Chapel of the Snows is meant to serve all faiths. A Torah is also kept there for services conducted by a lay reader, and there are stores of chicken, soup and matzo for Passover.

The Roman Catholic community is served by Father Simon Eccleton, a New Zealand priest on contract to the US base at McMurdo. Before he leaves next month, he will bless bread and

wine for communion during the Antarctic winter, when the base's population shrinks to around 250 from about 1,100 in summer.

Smith says the highlight of the season is celebrating Christmas, with a brass band, carols and communion. A harder task is lifting the McMurdo community from the inevitable post-Christmas "low," when the excitement dies down and people have time to miss family and friends.

When depression strikes, drink can be a problem. A chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous meets twice a week in the chapel.

"People get in an isolated place and they do tend to climb into the bottle. Traditionally that has been a problem down here," said Smith.

Sometimes tragedy strikes close to home. The McMurdo community was traumatized last season when a navy cargo handler was killed in a fall from a mountain.

Worst affected were the man's climbing companion and a group of medics who tried desperately to thaw and revive the frozen body for hours after the tragedy.

Eccleton administered the last rites to the man. It later turned out that he was a Catholic, and relatives back home were comforted to know the priest had been at hand.

"Crises at home, crises here - we intervene in quite a few of those," Smith said. "You need to know how to help a community get through that and recover."

The chapel was not part of the original plan for McMurdo in the 1950s, but was built to meet a spiritual need in what Smith calls this "completely artificial community."

He believes it is the only church in Antarctica.

A stained glass window with Antarctic themes is the striking feature of the present building built in 1989. It features an outline map of the continent, a communion chalice with bread and grapes, a bible and a penguin.

Eccleton said the most rewarding part of his work was watching non-believers turn to God, often because of the sheer beauty they found in Antarctica.

"In being down here, their horizons are broadened. The grandeur of this place strikes them in such a way that they start asking questions," he said.

Smith concurred. "Even the most sacrilegious people will look at the incredible ice flows and mountains here and say: 'There really is a God, there must be.'" (Reuters)

# The unknown Jewish pioneers of Canada

THERE AND THEN  
SRAYA SHAPIRO

NO trace remains of the tremendous effort to establish Jewish farms in Southern Canada at the turn of the century, except in writing. The late Jacob A. Baltzan wrote his story for the *Winnipeg Israelite Press* newspaper in Yiddish. His children had it translated into English and published it privately in Toronto. *Memoirs of a Pioneer Farmer in Western Canada at the Dawn of the Twentieth Century* (262 pp.) is a fascinating, if depressing, read.

Baron Maurice de Hirsch, the German banker, was sure he was saving the life of persecuted Jews in Eastern Europe by financing their emigration to Argentina and Canada. The plight of Romanian Jews around 1901 was such that the prospect of starting anew as farmers in a new land was like moving to Paradise.

But Baltzan, who saw these "colonists" three years later, found them miserable, barely sheltering in dugouts. There were no regular houses. Butter was their main food, as they were unable to sell it in the nearest hamlet, because it was so far away. "Promises to provide homes, cattle and agricultural machinery remained in Romania," Baltzan writes bitterly.

Baltzan hailed from Bessarabia, north of Romania, which was then under Russian rule. He had no intention of becoming a farmer. But, in the summer of 1904, Russia declared war on Japan and called up the reserves. Baltzan had already done his military service and enlisting again was not his intention. Instead, he bribed an official a gold ruble to get a document stating that he had to travel abroad for health reasons.

He planned to stay in Berlin until the war was over. But the Germans at the time were deporting Russian socialists. Realizing he was under surveillance, Baltzan took a train to Bremen, where he embarked on a German liner for New York. From there, he took a northbound train and, after four days, arrived at Fort Qu'Appelle, in Canada, to visit his elder brother Moshe in the Jewish colony.



Some of the first Jewish pioneers in Saskatchewan, in 1900. The plight of many settlers such as these included economic hardship and near-starvation. (Beth Hatefutsoth)

People were not concerned with such things, Baltzan was told. He was shocked.

Indeed, community life was difficult because, on the order of the authorities, each farmer was supposed to live separately on his land. Officers of Baron Hirsch's Jewish Colonization Association were of little help. They did not get on well with the farmers, who believed the officials were getting rich on the baron's money and ignoring the farmers.

Routine life in the colony was dull. The day started early with the morning milking, then caring for the horses. There was a break at noon for coffee, bread and butter. Monday was laundry day. On Friday, people cleaned their homes for Shabbat. "We did not write or do sundry work on a Shabbat," Baltzan writes.

After supper, residents tried to learn English without textbooks. They read Yiddish-language newspapers from New York. Ottawa and Winnipeg, and occasionally visited neighbors. Romanians and Bessarabians were always glad to offer Turkish coffee; the Russians

drank only tea.

When winter came, snow covered roads and communication became a problem. Baltzan tells of a neighbor who hauled a wagon of lumber, hoping to sell it in Fort Qu'Appelle. He lost his way and, when he reached the fort after wandering for three days, he was obliged to undersell because many others had arrived before him with timber.

The isolation was depressing. Once Baltzan met a young man emerging from the woods who said he had just received news of the death of a parent. There was no minyan with which he could recite Kaddish, so he went prayed alone in the woods, "and the trees answered 'Amen.'"

THE BROTHERS were determined to succeed: "With the money we had we could have gone to town; but we wanted to prove that Jews can live a normal life on the land." There was the exhilaration of creating things. They built a log house with a roof adorned by a *magen David*. "An idealist from Latvia"

agreed to perform the duties of ritual slaughterer, circumciser and cantor. Eventually, a synagogue was erected and called Tiferes Yisroel, and then another, named Herzl.

An association officer rebuked the farmers; the synagogue should have been named, he insisted, after the baron.

Bessarabia was forgotten; Canada breathed freedom. Jacob asked his wife to join him, which she did somewhat reluctantly, with their children.

After four years on the farm, Baltzan left. A farm could not sustain a family. The brothers supplemented their income by buying furs from the Indian, French and English farmers around and selling them at the fort. In due course, they opened stores.

The Jewish colony was gradually abandoned. "The caprices of nature" were more than a person could stand, Baltzan explains. Moreover, it was difficult in the prairies to transmit *yiddishkeit* to children. But what the baron's project lacked, Baltzan says, was a truly dedicated leader.



The entrance gate to the once-showplace garden of the Rothschilds in upper Rosh Pina displays the soon to be redone five-and-a-half dunam park.

# Reviving Rothschilds' gardens in Rosh Pina

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

Getting a grasp on the realities of the past is always a tricky business, which becomes even more complicated when one tries to reconstruct the artifacts. Records may have been lost or, even worse, never kept at all, and some items that seemed too obvious to deserve mention at the time may never have been recorded.

It is not so surprising, then, that attempts by the Jewish National Fund (JNF), (Keren Kayemet LeYisrael) or KKL as it is usually designated, to reconstruct the once show-place garden of the Rothschilds in upper Rosh Pina have run into plenty of problems.

But Hannah Yaffe, the landscape planner of KKL who is in charge of the project, says she does have a good idea about the long vanished garden of the baron. Reconstruction in itself is by no means a new thing in Rosh Pina, as the reconstruction of the old quarter at the top of the hill has been going on for more than two decades and much has already been accomplished.

Old cobblestone streets have been repaired and the synagogue reconstructed, as well as the large stone building overlooking the garden which once housed the administrative offices of the baron's clerks and the home of Dr. Gideon Meir, pioneer malaria fighting physician of the Galilee which is now a museum in his memory.

But the new factor is that the JNF has taken on the reconstruction of the five-and-a-half-dunam park, which was originally planned as a miniature Versailles. The park, once a beauty spot, has long fallen into disrepair, and while it is kept clean and neat by the local council it is considered by most to be a dull and unimpressive place.

One difference will be that the park will be open to the public, while in the baron's time it was a promenade only for the French clerks of the Rothschild family and their families.

Jaffe has laid out a plan based

on the original ones in the archives. There will be flowers, shrubs and trees and an area for cultural activities. The planting will adhere as much as possible to the original ones that were found there. There will be trees; olives, figs, acacias, Bartlett pears, Santa Rosa plums, almonds, persimmons and pitango, as well as tung oil trees, a special oil bearing nut tree grown in the Pacific and in Florida in the US, and breadfruit trees.

There will also be pines, casuarinas, chinaberry and cypress, as well as others. Shrubs will be represented by jasmine and beds of scented roses (the baron once envisioned Rosh Pina as a center for the production of attar of roses), while mint and sage, verbena and geranium will be planted for color and scent.

So far the JNF has budgeted NIS 60,000 for planting and preparation, but this is no doubt simply a starter fund. Certainly more will have to be invested for the garden to be completed. Not only must the infrastructure be prepared, but plants must be sought and propagated from many places in the world.

Nor is it sure just which of the plants originally planted actually succeeded - that simply isn't in the records - or exactly where the greenhouses were located. The JNF, once the garden is planted, will no longer be involved, and

the upkeep of the park will cost the Rosh Pina local council NIS 55,000 a year.

The program's supporters are optimistic, but there are also some Rosh Pinatis who have their doubts.

They fear that planting fruit trees and exotic species of tree and shrub in such close proximity to the residences will result in a large amount of pesticide being sprayed to protect the garden, and others complain that a local council which always claims not to have enough funds for additional playgrounds and other facilities in the township can hardly afford NIS 10,000 per dunam for annual upkeep.

But these qualms are not representative of the majority of the town, who see the development as a definite cultural addition to the area.

Two readers have written to tell me they are worried about feeding meat and eggs to their dogs because of high cholesterol and fat content. I am sure that with the attention being paid to these nutritional components, many other readers must also be concerned.

One common error is to think that everything that applies to humans is also true of animals. Dogs are carnivores and are thus equipped with a digestive system and a metabolism that is suited to a meat diet, which is generally high in fats and cholesterol.

We humans, being omnivores, are not so well equipped to deal with a high-fat diet. But dogs usually do not suffer from cholesterol. Unless they have a liver or kidney disease, they do not need a

# Don't think of what's good for humans when feeding pets

HEADS 'N' TAILS  
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

low-fat or fat-free diet and may actually suffer from such restrictions.

Animals differ from humans and also from other species in many areas of metabolic function.

Baby gazelles need the milk of a female gazelle that is 25 to 30 percent butterfat to develop properly. Most other mammalian babies would die of digestive problems if given such a diet. Baby seals are nourished on milk that is even richer.

Many animals are strictly vegetarian, and many omnivorous species can be healthy and happy with a vegetarian diet. Cats, however, go blind if deprived of certain components found only in

meat products.

Dogs can be fed on a vegetarian diet, but they do not really do so well on this regimen. All this is confusing at times, since some of the true carnivores do sometimes enjoy certain vegetables and fruits.

Hyenas love melons, raiding melon patches whenever they can. I have seen wolves eating tomatoes fresh from the vine in Ein Hatzeva, and the fondness for grapes exhibited by the fox is documented as far back as the Bible.

The lesson to learn from all this is that we really cannot allow ourselves to jump to conclusions about an animal's diet just because it would be unsuitable for

a human. There are just too many differences. This is why medical experiments on animals are, in a good many cases, less reliable than experiments using human tissue culture.

No matter how dramatic the experiment, the fact remains that animals and humans have enough differences to make animal-based experimental evidence far from reliable.

The best thing we can do for our pets is to learn as much as we can about their own metabolic structure and nutritional needs and then care for them accordingly without trying to compare it too much to the human experience. Each species is a unique and precious treasure and should be valued for the differences that make them so wonderful.

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# All systems go for 'lowest race on earth'

NOW THAT the Dead Sea television commercial has got your attention, why not try the Ein Gedi half marathon? The "lowest race on earth" over a distance of 21.1 kilometers, will be run this year, for the 14th time, on February 17.

More than 1,000 runners are expected to take part with registration already received from Bahrain, Hungary, Colombia, Russia, Belgium and the Ukraine while 13 Moroccan athletes (including two women) are scheduled to compete.

Among the overseas visitors, the limelight will fall on 13-year-old Sylvia Devoeleer from Belgium who has been running alongside her father, Emile, from the age of three, joining in food-raising races and working with Unicef towards their peace efforts.

Other stars are Helena Brocsi, who has twice won Hungary's half-marathon with her personal best of 1:10.01, Fabiola Oppinger from Colombia who will compete

### HEATHER CHAIT

in this year's Olympics and Leonid Shvetsov who will be visiting Ein Gedi for his third successive race after winning in 1995 and finishing second in 1994.

The local contingent will include last year's men's winner, 38-year-old Ayalah Setine, a new immigrant from Ethiopia who clocked in at 1:04.55 as well as Dov Kremer and Amit Ne'eman.

The first Israeli man and woman across the line this year will be invited to represent Israel for the first time in the Luxor Marathon in Egypt (full or half marathon). This may pave the way for reciprocal visits by Egyptian runners to Israel.

The half marathon (beginning at 2:30 pm) will start at the Ein Gedi Spa, four kilometers south of Kibbutz Ein Gedi, and will follow

the Dead Sea Road (No. 90) until the finishing point at Masada.

Besides the half marathon, there will be races of 10km and the popular 3km while a special attraction will be the 100 rollerblade fanatics gliding along their 10km route.

The wheelchair event has attracted Ziv Bar-Shira who will represent Israel in the Paralympics in Atlanta.

Prize money of NIS 3,000 will be awarded to the first male and female runners on condition that they improve on 1:11 for men and 1:28 for women. If the clock registers slower times, the prize money will be halved.

If the course record of 1:04.15 or 1:14.41 for men and women respectively is broken, there will be a bonus of NIS 1,500.

The race is organized by the Tamar regional council and Kibbutz Ein Gedi.

Last date for registration is February 14. To register call: (07) 594-422/3 or (02) 612-342.

# Brody inducted to Jewish Sports Hall of Fame

## Maccabi Tel Aviv star one of 15 athletes to qualify for Hall

### HEATHER CHAIT

NOW there's really no chance of Maccabi Tel Aviv's win in the 1977 European Cup Championships ever being forgotten. Tal Brody, part of that history-making basketball team, has been inducted into the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame for 1995. Brody is the only Israeli to be honored this year among the list of 15 sportspeople, which includes nine Americans.

As he has done for the past 16 years, Hall of Fame chairman Alan Sherman, together with honorary chairman of the last four years, R. Stephen Rubin, nominated sportspeople to be honored in the Hall of Fame, located on the campus of the Wingate Institute.

Harry Harris, also known as "The Human Hairpin," led the list of Jewish World boxing champions, winning the World Championships bantamweight title in 1901-1902. The 5'8" 105-pound boxer has the credit of never being knocked out during his 11-year career.

Marty Hogan changed the face of racketball with his unbelievable ability to move the ball at 142 miles an hour which made him the world's No. 1 or 2 from 1976-1990.

Holding the world outdoor one-mile record (6:19.2) for 12 years was German-born Henry Laskau who cracked the time in 1951, at the age of 35.

Benny Lom, a three-time University of California All America football great was feared for his "triple threat" play (run, pass, kick) which paved his way into the Hall of Fame.

The Philadelphia Spas - so-called because the South Philadelphia Hebrew Association sponsored their uniforms - rose from an amateur basketball team in 1918 to compete in the American Basketball League and to win seven championships in 15 seasons.

Four Americans are designated for the Pillar of Achievement. John Brunswick turned from manufacturing carriages to billiards and built the first "perfect" billiard table in 1845, the forerunner of the Brunswick billiard and 10-pin bowling kingdom.

No novice to the Hall of Fame is Dan Daniel, a prolific baseball writer who received the J.G. Taylor Spink Award, the Baseball Hall of Fame honor for sports writers. For nearly half a century, Daniel wrote for the *World-Telegram* and *The Sporting News*, focusing mainly on baseball, college football and boxing.

From the printed to the spoken word and to Marty Glickman who



STAR PERFORMER - Edwin (Hughie) Black was co-founder of the 1922 Philadelphia SPHAS team, American Basketball League champions.

reported for radio and television for five decades, updating fans on the New York Giants (1948-1971), the New York Jets (1972-79, 1987-89) and the New York Knicks (1946-1970).

His passion for filming football games led Ed Sabol to found NFL Films, Inc., which has filmed every NFL game since 1964 and has brought him into the realm of sports coaching and entertainment as well as assuring his company 58 Emmy Awards.

Among the international honorees are five Hungarians, including Ferenc Kemeny (Kaufman) who is fittingly celebrated in this Olympic year.

Kemeny was a founding member in 1884 of the first International Olympic Committee and instrumental in the first

Olympic Games in Athens, alongside Pierre de Coubertin.

Laszlo Fabian was Hungary's first Olympic champion in canoeing in 1956, winning the gold medal in the 10,000 meters kayak doubles while Tamas Gabor captured the gold medal in the fencing competition at the 1964 Olympics.

Aona Sipos won the World Singles Table Tennis Championships in 1932 and 1933 and collected 21 medals altogether in World Championships.

Laszlo Szollas, skating with Emilia Rotter (who was honored last year), won the World Pairs Figure Skating Championships four times (1931, 1933, 1934, 1935) and added two bronze Olympic medals to his credit in 1932 and 1936.

# England picks up its first win in Five Nations championship

LONDON (Reuters) - England failed to silence their Twickenham critics yesterday despite beating Wales 21-15 to record their first victory in this season's Five Nations championship.

The English, under pressure to expand their game after their brave but limited 15-12 defeat to France in Paris last month, once again struggled to find their rhythm and had to cling on for victory in the closing minutes.

Rory Underwood and Jeremy Guscott scored tries either side of halftime which seemed to have settled the issue, until debutant Welsh scrum-half Rob Howley scored a late try to bring his side within six points.

A converted try would have reversed the result, but the young Welsh team paid the penalty for making costly errors earlier in the game when their forwards were

under pressure from the big English pack.

"I'm very pleased with the result, but there were certainly areas which weren't great," admitted captain Will Carling, who like rival skipper Jonathan Humphreys failed to last the full 80 minutes.

"We looked good with the ball in hand, although there were a few lapses in concentration. But it's an important win for our confidence."

Until Rory Underwood scored his 49th try for his country in the 38th minute after a prolonged spell of forward pressure on the Welsh line, England had been deeply disappointing but the score did release some of the pentup tension among both players and crowd.

As Underwood also scored a try in the British Lions' second test win over New Zealand in

Wellington in 1993, this represented his half-century in tests, but the rest of the home performance was distinctly ordinary for long periods.

Wales, fielding seven players making their Five Nations' debuts, also had trouble living up to their pre-match statements of attacking intent, the exception being their first try after almost 10 minutes.

As the English players trooped back behind their own goal posts expecting Thomas to attempt a penalty kick, the diminutive 21-year-old tapped the ball to himself and spread it wide.

New Zealand-born number eight Hemi Taylor received possession some 10 meters out and three English tacklers proved unable to stop him as he drove determinedly for the line. The slender Welsh lead lasted until Underwood's converted try

# Even Magic can't stop Bulls

## Chicago improves record to an unprecedented 41-3

INGLEWOOD (AP) - Scottie Pippen had 30 points and Dennis Rodman a season-high 23 rebounds as the Chicago Bulls defeated the Los Angeles Lakers 99-84 on Friday night for their 18th consecutive victory.

Michael Jordan chipped in 17 points and Rodman's defense kept Magic Johnson from performing any miracles, rendering the much-anticipated matchup a mere sideshow.

The Bulls shot 56 percent and rang up a 20-point lead early in the third quarter, and set a franchise record with their ninth consecutive road victory.

Johnson finished with 15 points on 6-for-13 shooting, but he had just three assists and was frustrated all night by Rodman's physical play.

Cedric Ceballos led the Lakers with 23 points and Elden Campbell added 15. Nick Van Exel, averaging more than 15 points, was held to just nine.

The Bulls improved their record, the best start of any team in NBA history, to 41-3.

Cavaliers 107, Suns 85

Host Cleveland tied an NBA record with 10 3-pointers in the first half Friday night and routed Phoenix behind 23 points from Chris Mills.

The Suns, who had held their five previous opponents under 100 points, let the Cavaliers repeatedly get open from long range. By halftime, Cleveland was 16-of-17 from 3-point range, compared with just 10-of-22 from inside the arc.

Phoenix, playing the seventh game of an eight-game road trip, was uninspired by the return of Danny Manning from a knee injury that had sidelined him for nearly a year. Manning had 10 points and three rebounds in 26 minutes.

The Cavs finished with 12 3-pointers, including four by Danny Ferry and three by Mills. Ferry scored 22 points.

Charles Barkley and Kevin Johnson scored 15 apiece for the Suns.

Bullets 113, Trail Blazers 97

Juwan Howard scored 14 of his 26 points in the pivotal third quarter and George Muresan had 21 points and 16 rebounds as host Washington beat slumping Portland.

Down 49-47 at halftime, the Bulls outscored the Trail Blazers 41-21 in the third period - the most points scored against Portland in one quarter this season - and shot 18-of-29 from the floor.

Portland opened the fourth quarter with a 9-0 run, but never got closer than seven points the rest of the way.

Rod Strickland scored 20 and Clifford Robinson had 19 for the Trail Blazers, who have lost three straight and five of six.

Calbert Cheaney had 23 points for the Bulls, who were playing their first game since losing Chris Webber for the season following shoulder surgery.

Pacers 116, Celtics 108

Rik Smits scored 31 points and Reggie Miller had 21 as Indiana bounced back from its lowest-scoring game of the season and beat Boston.

It was the 16th straight home victory for the Pacers, who shot 61 percent from the field. One night earlier, they managed only 70 points and 34.6 percent shooting in a loss to Detroit.

Indiana broke the game open with a 21-6 run. It started with a hook shot by Smits with 19.7 seconds left in the third quarter that put Indiana ahead 84-81. Duane Ferrell's steal and basket put Indiana ahead 86-81, and Smits then scored Indiana's first four points of the fourth quarter.

Boston didn't get its second basket of the final period until 7:18 remained. Indiana then went on a 10-2 run that ended with Smits hitting two free throws with 5:11 to play.



DYNAMIC DUO - Los Angeles' Magic Johnson (l) and Chicago's Michael Jordan bump shoulders in Friday night's game.

The final eight-point deficit was the closest the Celtics got after that. They lost for the 13th time in their last 14 games at Market Square Arena.

Magic 108, Hawks 95

Shaquille O'Neal and Anfernee Hardaway played like All-Stars and Orlando reverted to its winning ways with a victory over Atlanta that kept the Magic unbeaten at home.

Bouncing back from subpar performances in a road loss to the New York Knicks the previous night, O'Neal had 25 points and 16 rebounds and Hardaway finished with 14 points and 13 assists.

The Atlantic Division leaders have lost seven of their last nine road games, but improved to 23-0 at Orlando Arena where they've won 30 consecutive regular-season games dating back to last spring.

Stacey Augmon led Atlanta, which has lost three straight after winning 10 in a row, with 21 points. Grant Long had 17 points and 10 rebounds, while Steve Smith scored 15 for the Hawks.

ON THURSDAY

Bulls 105, Kings 85

Michael Jordan scored 27 points and Dennis Rodman tied his season high with 21 rebounds to lead visiting Chicago to its 17th straight win.

The Bulls improved to 40-3, an NBA record for most wins with just

three losses. The 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers were 39-3.

Jordan struggled for the second straight game, hitting seven of his 16 shots, but added 13 free throws. He was just 7-for-26 from the field in Tuesday's win at Houston.

Mich Richmond had 30 points, including six 3-pointers, for the Kings.

Knicks 110, Orlando 102

Host New York survived 15 consecutive missed shots by Patrick Ewing and a 30-point night by Nick Anderson to win its fourth straight game, 110-102 over the Orlando Magic.

Ewing scored all 23 of his points in the first half, then lost his touch. But Anthony Mason had 13 of his 21 points in the second half, including a tip-in and layup that ended Orlando's final threat.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS: Detroit 87, Indiana 70; Houston 116, Charlotte 111; New York 110, Orlando 102; Miami 124, Philadelphia 104; Dallas 103, Seattle 100; Milwaukee 108, Denver 102; Chicago 105, Sacramento 85.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS: Washington 113, Portland 97; Orlando 108, Atlanta 95; Indiana 116, Boston 108; Cleveland 107, Phoenix 85; San Antonio 101, Minnesota 90; Utah 122,

L.A. Clippers 113; New Jersey 93, Vancouver 84; Chicago 99, L.A. Lakers 94; Golden State 214, Toronto 111.

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	32	13	.711	
New York	28	18	.611	3
Washington	22	24	.512	8
Miami	20	25	.444	12
New Jersey	18	28	.393	13 1/2
Boston	15	28	.364	15 1/2
Philadelphia	9	35	.257	23

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Chicago	41	3	.932	
Indiana	30	15	.667	11 1/2
Atlanta	24	20	.545	17
Cleveland	24	20	.545	17
Detroit	22	20	.524	18
Charlotte	21	22	.488	19 1/2
Milwaukee	16	28	.364	24
Toronto	15	28	.349	25

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	32	13	.688	
Utah	30	14	.682	
Houston	30	16	.652	1
Denver	18	28	.393	12
Dallas	15	27	.357	14
Minnesota	11	31	.262	18
Vancouver	10	35	.222	20 1/2

Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	32	12	.727	
Sacramento	25	17	.595	7
L.A. Lakers	23	19	.548	7
Portland	21	24	.467	11 1/2
Phoenix	15	28	.349	17 1/2
Golden State	18	25	.423	13
L.A. Clippers	16	28	.364	16

# Gelinas's goal lifts Canucks to victory

DALLAS (AP) - Martin Gelinas's power-play goal with 2:14 left capped a third-period comeback and lifted the Vancouver Canucks over the Dallas Stars 5-4 Friday night.

Defenseman Adrian Aucoin assisted on the game-winner. He tied the game at 4 with 5:51 remaining with his third goal of the season.

Kevin Hatcher's 13th goal of the season, and fifth in five games, put Dallas ahead 4-3 with 11:45 remaining.

Hatcher scored one of the Stars' season-high four power-play goals. Brent Fedyk, Brent Gilchrist and Benoit Hogue added goals with the man advantage for Dallas.

tags for Dallas.

Gelinas snapped the Canucks out of a 1-4-2 slump in their previous seven games, knocking in the rebound of his own shot for his 20th goal of the season.

Whalers 4, Ducks 3

Nelson Emerson scored the go-ahead goal late in the second period for visiting Hartford.

A minute before Emerson's goal, defenseman Baron Parker sustained a mild concussion when he collided with Anaheim's Paul Kariya behind the Hartford net.

Kariya, who had two assists, had just missed on a breakaway effort when he ran into Parker, who landed hard against the right backboards.

Parker was taken off on a gurney to St. Joseph's Hospital for precautionary X-rays. Kariya was not hurt.

ON THURSDAY

Flyers 3, Canadiens 2 (OT)

Eric Desjardins scored from the right circle with 29.8 seconds remaining in overtime for host Philadelphia.

Ston Foreden scrambled for the puck behind the Canadiens' net and spotted Desjardins coming down from the point. Desjardins ripped a shot that got by goaltender Pat Jablonski for his fifth goal of the season. The loss snapped Montreal's four-game winning streak.

Blues 2, Canucks 2

Alexander Mogilny had one apparent goal waved off in the final minute of regulation, then scored with 7.9 seconds to go to give the visiting Vancouver a tie with St. Louis.

The goal, Mogilny's 40th and third in three games against the Blues, actually was on his third scoring chance of the last minute.

Redpath twice involved in getting the ball out to Dods.

The victory left Scotland, wooden spoon candidates before the championships got under way two weeks ago, as sole leaders in the standings with a maximum four points.

Five Nations second round standings

GP	W	D	L	PF	PA	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	35	24	4
England	2	1	0	1	39	2
France	2	1	0	1	29	2
Ireland	1	0	1	10	16	0
Wales	1	0	1	15	21	0

Results

Jan. 20: France 15, England 12; Ireland 10, Scotland 16.

Feb. 3: England 21, Wales 15; Scotland 19, France 14.

Remaining fixtures: Feb. 17: Wales v Scotland, France v Ireland, March 2: Ireland v Wales, Scotland v England, March 16: England v Ireland, Wales v France.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS: Florida 2, Boston 2 (tie); Washington 4, Ottawa 2; Philadelphia 3, Montreal 2 (OT); Vancouver 3, St. Louis 2 (tie); Colorado 6, Winnipeg 4; New Jersey 1, Calgary 1 (tie); Los Angeles 6, San Jose 6 (tie).

FRIDAY'S RESULTS: Vancouver 5, Dallas 4; Hartford 4, Anaheim 3.

EASTERN CONFERENCE					
Atlantic Division					
W	L	Pct	GB	GA	
N.Y. Rangers	31	11	10	70	189
Florida	30	14	8	87	177
Philadelphia	25	14	6	74	157
Washington	24	17	5	75	150
New Jersey	22	22	6	50	130
Tampa Bay	21	20	7	49	143
San Jose	15	27	8	34	158

Northwest Division					
W	L	Pct	GB	GA	
Pittsburgh	31	16	3	65	220
Edmonton	18	20	13	48	185
Boston	21	20	7	49	171
Hartford	20	25	8	48	144
Buffalo	21	8	6	31	93
Ottawa	9	39	2	20	114

WESTERN CONFERENCE					
Central Division					
W	L	Pct	GB	GA	
Detroit	35	1	7	61	101
Chicago	26	15	11	63	176
Toronto	22	18	6	53	151
St. Louis	22	16	6	45	148
Winnipeg	21	25	4	46	176
Dallas	14	25	11	39	187

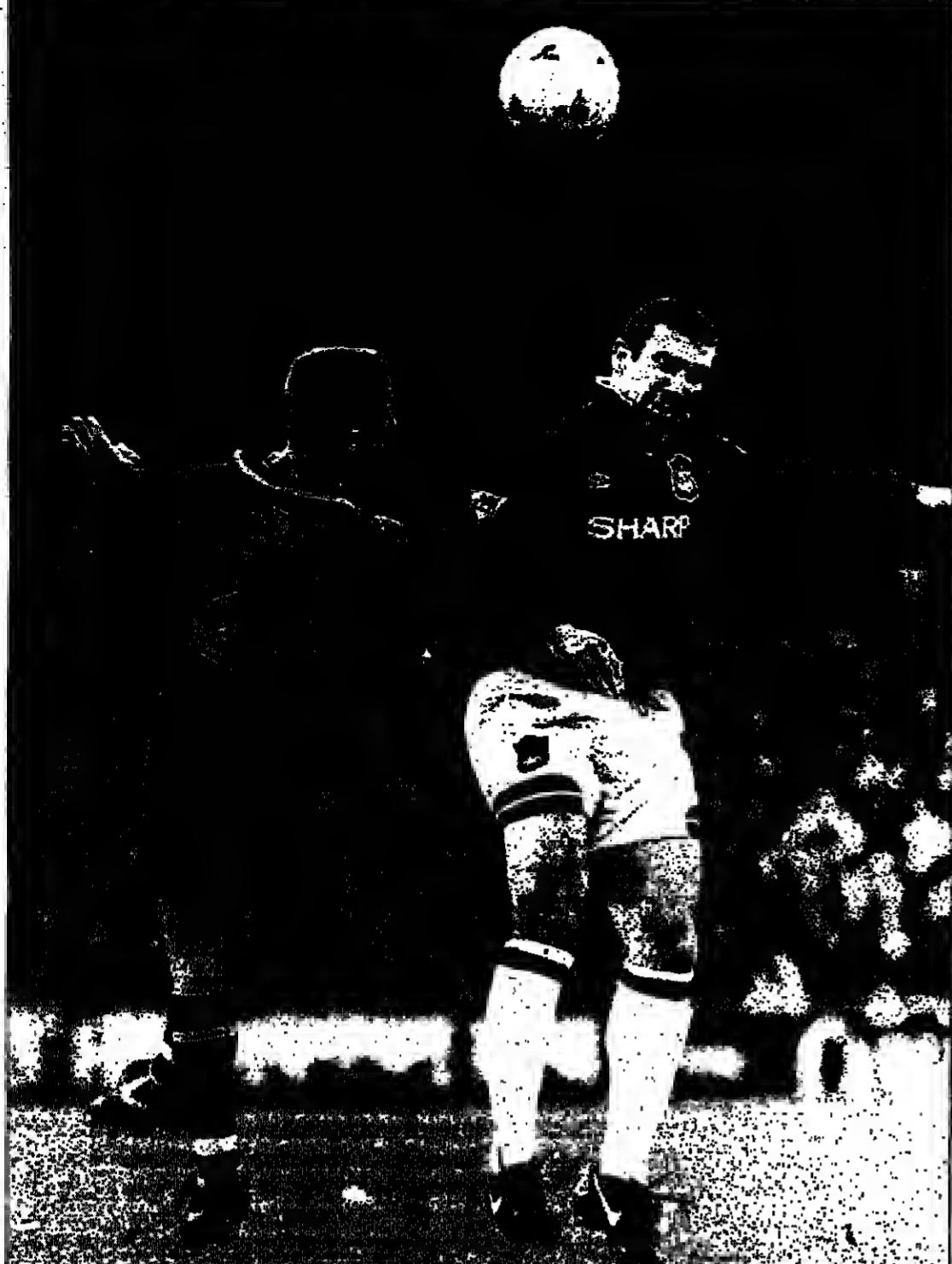
Pacific Division					
W	L	Pct	GB	GA	
Colorado	27	15	6	63	197
Vancouver	18	20	13	48	185
Calgary	15	25	6	74	172
Los Angeles	17	23	12	46	177
Edmonton	18	28	9	42	135
Anaheim	18	28	5	41	144
San Jose	11	35	6	27	159

### GUESS WHICH?

Ailly McCoist, Paul Bracewell and Barry Venison have all played for which English soccer club?



Top teams eke out wins



IN FORM - Manchester's Eric Cantona (r) and Wimbledon's Chris Perry dual for a high ball during yesterday's play.

DESPITE questionable performances, the top three soccer clubs all managed to register victories yesterday in the 17th round of the National League.

Maccabi Tel Aviv could only squeeze one goal past Rishon LeZion despite home advantage; Maccabi Haifa only found the net after opponents Hapoel Beersheba were reduced to nine men; and the gods again smiled at Betar Jerusalem, as the team made good against lowly Kfar Sava thanks to a fortunate penalty decision.

Alon Mizrahi finally propelled himself out of the doldrums to become the success story of the round, slamming four goals home as Bnei Yehuda romped to a 6-1 road victory against Betar Tel Aviv in the Big Orange's mini derby.

The result could prove to be the nail in the coffin of Betar coach Michael Kadosh, while Zafririm Holon's board is rapidly losing patience with coach Mordechai Spiegler, after a home defeat this weekend against Maccabi Jaffa.

Hapoel ahead after 19 minutes. Much to the frustration of the Betari supporters, their side was unable to make any significant impression, and a surprise defeat loomed.

A disputed penalty decision in favor of the Jerusalemites in the 73rd minute proved to be the game's turning point, with Ronen Harazi converting from the spot. Ten minutes later Harazi had the ball in the net again, to give his side a precious if undesired victory.

Mac. Haifa 3, Hap. Beersheba 0 The southerners seemed likely to throw the hosts, on the evidence of a dreadful first half by Maccabi. Hapoel then threw the match away midway through the second half, by having LeKovitch and Sagron dismissed in quick succession.

Maccabi soon capitalized on its two-man advantage, with a stunning goal from Haim Revivo in the 70th minute. Ofer Shitreet and Sergei Kandaurov each added one in the last five minutes.

The final result flatters the Haifaies, who will have to play much better than this if they hope to win back the title.

Hap. Beit She'an 1, Hap. Haifa 1 Kfar Sava's new coach, Avi Cohen, looked to have made a dream start after Guy Messika put

in this derby clash. Hapoel's honor was saved by Polish import Tomasz Sevola tying the match in the 78th minute.

Bet. Tel Aviv 1, Bnei Yehuda 6 Alon Mizrahi is back. With a miraculous four-goal performance and a hand in Nir Sevila's goal, Mizrahi's career finally seems to be back on track with the club he first blossomed with.

The "propeller" began whirring with a goal after nine minutes, following neat work by Sevila. Mizrahi returned the compliment early in the second period, handing back Sevila a goal opportunity that could not be missed. Mizrahi hit again in the 57th minute, followed by an own goal from David Hershlikowitz, before he added to his tally in the 68th minute and in injury time.

Maccabi soon capitalized on its two-man advantage, with a stunning goal from Haim Revivo in the 70th minute. Ofer Shitreet and Sergei Kandaurov each added one in the last five minutes.

The final result flatters the Haifaies, who will have to play much better than this if they hope to win back the title.

Zafririm Holon 0, Mac. Jaffa 1 The game's solitary goal from Yaron Drori provided Jaffa's first road win of the season in the only match played on Friday.

The result places Mordechai Spiegler's future as Holon coach in serious jeopardy.

Hap. Tel Aviv 1, Mac. Herzliya 0 Shalom Tikva returned to local soccer from Belgium with a win. This contest also marked Gilly Landau's first return as opposing coach against the side he once graced so successfully in days past together with Moshe Sinai.

NATIONAL LEAGUE After 17 rounds. Table with columns: Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists teams like Mac. Tel Aviv, Bet. Jerusalem, Mac. Haifa, etc.

Cantona returns to Selhurst Park with two goals

LONDON (AP) - Eric Cantona made a spectacular but peaceful return to Selhurst Park yesterday, with two goals in a 4-2 victory for Manchester United at Wimbledon.

Aston Villa climbed to fourth after a 3-0 victory over Leeds at Villa Park. Tottenham striker Dwight Yorke scored his 50th goal in English soccer and then added another before defender Alan Wright hit the third.

Southampton and Manchester City fought out a 2-2 tie at The Dell with Gordon Watson and Jim Magilton netting for the Saints either side of goals for Everton by Graham Stuart and Barry Horne.

Premier League: Arsenal 1, Coventry 1; Aston Villa 3, Leeds 0; Blackburn 3, Bolton 1; Liverpool 0, Tottenham 0; Manchester City 2, Queens Park Rangers 0; Newcastle 2, Sheffield Wednesday 0; Southampton 2, Everton 2; West Ham 1, Nottingham Forest 0; Wimbledon 2, Manchester United 4.

Division Two: Blackpool 1, Hull 1; Bournemouth 2, Wycombe 3; Brentford 1, Barnley 0; Brighton 2, Wrexham 2; Bristol Rovers 2, Walsall 0; Chesterfield 3, Swans 2; Crewe 0, York 0; Notts County 1, Peterborough 0; Rotherham 1, Oxford 0; Shrewsbury 1, Bradford 1; Stockport v Bristol City ppd. Swindon 2, Carlisle 1.

Division One: Barnsley 2, Watford 1; Grimsby 3, Derby 1; Huddersfield 1, Tranmere 0; Ipswich 2, West Bromwich 1; Leicester 1, Luton 1; Sheffield United 2, Oldham 1; Southend 2, Millwall 0; Wolverhampton 3, Sunderland 0.

South Africa defeats Tunisia 2-0 to win African Cup

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - Substitute striker Mark Williams scored two goals within a minute in the second half Saturday to give South Africa a 2-0 victory and the championship in its first African Cup of Nations soccer tournament.

Williams replaced Phil Masinga in the 65th minute and eight minutes later, he completed a series of headers off a Doctor Khumalo free kick to finally beat Tunisian goalkeeper Chokri el Ouaer and send a packed crowd of more than 80,000 fans into a screaming, flag-waving frenzy.

Before the final, a colorful closing ceremony, highlighted by a South African Airways jumbo jet that buzzed the stadium with the team's nickname, Bafana Bafana (Boys Boys), written on the bottom, saw flag-bearing delegations from each nation march on the field around a huge South African flag amid music and dancing.

Another record for swimmer Bruck

Yovav Bruck set a new Israeli record and clinched a bronze medal yesterday in Paris, swimming in the 100 meter freestyle event.

CLASSIFIEDS

RATES table with columns: GP, W, D, L, T, GF, GA, Pts. Lists various classifieds and their rates.

Dwellings, Rentals, and Classifieds table with columns: GP, W, D, L, T, GF, GA, Pts. Lists various classifieds and their rates.

Dwellings, Rentals, and Classifieds table with columns: GP, W, D, L, T, GF, GA, Pts. Lists various classifieds and their rates.

Dwellings, Rentals, and Classifieds table with columns: GP, W, D, L, T, GF, GA, Pts. Lists various classifieds and their rates.

Services, Health, Situations Vacant, Household Help, For Sale, and Classifieds table with columns: GP, W, D, L, T, GF, GA, Pts. Lists various classifieds and their rates.

SEEKING EXPERIENCED ADVERTISING SALESPERSON. Requirements: Good command of Hebrew and English, Experience in newspaper advertising a plus, Self-employed, Must be Jerusalem area resident. Call: The Jerusalem Post, 02-315633.



Stocks, bonds fall FTSE up 28.5

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks tumbled Friday along with long-term bonds, as a run-up in gold prices stirred fears of inflation.

very quickly in the last hour," said Leon Brand, a global market specialist at NatWest Securities.

LONDON (Reuter) - A surge in the March FTSE futures contract in the final hour of trade pushed UK blue chips into record territory for the second time this week but the rally may not be sustainable, at least in the short-term.

this was up 19.13 from a week ago, but nearly twenty points below the close of late electronic trade on Thursday, and ended post-bourse electronic dealings at 2,459.81.

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

\$ falls against major currencies CURRENCY REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - The dollar fell against most major currencies Friday on profit taking by traders disappointed that the dollar didn't rally this week despite evidence of slowing European and Japanese economies.

The dollar fell against both the German mark and the Japanese yen after the greenback sent the day rising and falling against both currencies.

By the close in New York, the dollar was trading at 1.4823 marks, compared with 1.4875 on Thursday. It finished at 106.55 yen, compared with 106.75 the day before.

Investors not ready for profits

WALL STREET WEEK

NEW YORK (AP) - Stock investors are doing a reverse limbo - testing how high the market can go - and dancing to the quickening beat.

and the market says, "wonderful, there's no recession," and they buy GM and kindred cyclical stocks. Then they see all the economic data showing flat-to-down trends, and they say, "terrific, inflation's not a problem," and they buy the market.

Invest in the world's major exchanges with Israel Discount Bank. It's a small world!

There does seem to be no dispelling stock investors. Since January 26, the Dow Jones industrial average has set five consecutive all-time highs, climbing 9.76 this past Thursday to a record 5,405.06.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS. Table with columns for currency deposit rates (30, 6, 12 months) and exchange rates for various currencies.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS. Table with columns for Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates (2.256) and Banknotes (100, 200, 500, 1000).

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES. Table listing various international stocks with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Mutual Funds - Flexible. Table with columns for Fund Name, Net Assets, and Performance.

Mutual Funds - Shares. Table with columns for Fund Name, Net Assets, and Performance.

Mutual Funds - State Bonds. Table with columns for Fund Name, Net Assets, and Performance.

Mutual Funds - Company Bonds. Table with columns for Fund Name, Net Assets, and Performance.

Mutual Funds - Foreign Currency. Table with columns for Fund Name, Net Assets, and Performance.

Mutual Funds - Mixed. Table with columns for Fund Name, Net Assets, and Performance.

Key Representative Rates. Table showing US dollar, Sterling, and Mark rates.

New York market indexes. Table showing DJ Industrials, NYSE Composite, and other indices.

Other stock market indexes. Table showing FTSE 100, Nikkei, and other international indices.

Israeli stocks in NY. Table listing various Israeli companies and their stock prices.

INFLATION MARKETS. Table showing various inflation-related metrics.

Dollar crossrates (US). Table showing exchange rates for various currencies.

Libor rates. Table showing various Libor interest rates.

Foreign financial data courtesy of Comstock Trading Ltd.

US commodities. Table listing various commodity prices.

London commodities. Table listing various commodity prices.

Spot market metals (US). Table listing various metal prices.

London metal fixes. Table listing various metal prices.

Comstock Trading Ltd. (Date 3-FEB-96)



CRITIC'S CHOICE

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

BEHEADING Hanoch Levin's newest variation on the theme of cosmic despair...

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

STEPHEN Stein leads the Israel Chamber Orchestra in an all-Mozart evening...

DANCE

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

TONIGHT is your last chance to enjoy the Mark Morris Dance Group performing L'Allegro, Il Penseroso ed Il Moderato...

TELEVISION

RUTH KERN

LAW and Order goes by the book. Every week we get a body, an investigation and a legal conclusion...



Matt Gavin (Chazz Palminteri) is outraged during an official interrogation of his wife Trina (Linda Fiorentino) in the psychological thriller 'Jade.'

speechless DA. "I thought not." There are a million stories in the naked city and Law and Order is picking them off one by one.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

JADE - Joe Eszterhas's scripts for thrillers like Jagged Edge, Basic Instinct and now Jade all rely on gratuitously sadomasochistic situations...

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News in Arabic 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 The European Miracle 8:30 Society 8:55 Reading Comprehension 9:15 Nature 9:25 Young children's programs...

CHANNEL 1

15:30 Garfield 15:55 Who's Afraid of the Dark? 16:20 Screen Wonders 17:00 A New Evening 17:35 Zap to Click...

CHANNEL 2

13:00 Laser Patrol - cartoon 13:30 Power Rangers 14:00 Flying Doctors 15:00 The Flintstones 15:30 Me and the Boys...

JORDAN TV

14:00 The Finlanteses 14:30 Disney's Aladdin 15:00 Family

WHERE TO GO

Notice in this feature are charged at \$22.00 per insertion, including VAT, per insertion every day of the month costs \$220.00...

JERUSALEM Conducted Tours HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Old City, Temple Mount, Jerusalem Museum...

TEL AVIV Museums TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Eight in November. Exhibitions: Great Frescoes, Sholem Aleichem...

HAIFA WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253. JERUSALEM CINEMA THEQUE Muriel's Wedding 5 \*

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clinic, Straus A. 3 Avodot, 706660; Baitan, Salah e-Din...

POLICE 100 FIRE 102 FIRST AID 101 Magen David Adom In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English)...

DUTY HOSPITALS Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, orthopedics, obstetrics, ENT); Bikur Holim (surgery); Hadasah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, ophthalmology)...

QUICK CROSSWORD ACROSS 1 Rebeck, 2 Conceal, 3 Uphoveal, 4 Iris, 5 Adios, 6 Esquival, 7 Offer, 8 Mawara, 9 Brava, 10 Mawara, 11 Adios, 12 Esquival, 13 Uphoveal, 14 Iris, 15 Adios, 16 Esquival, 17 Offer, 18 Mawara, 19 Brava, 20 Mawara, 21 Adios, 22 Esquival, 23 Uphoveal, 24 Iris, 25 Adios, 26 Esquival, 27 Offer, 28 Mawara, 29 Brava, 30 Mawara, 31 Adios, 32 Esquival, 33 Uphoveal, 34 Iris, 35 Adios, 36 Esquival, 37 Offer, 38 Mawara, 39 Brava, 40 Mawara, 41 Adios, 42 Esquival, 43 Uphoveal, 44 Iris, 45 Adios, 46 Esquival, 47 Offer, 48 Mawara, 49 Brava, 50 Mawara, 51 Adios, 52 Esquival, 53 Uphoveal, 54 Iris, 55 Adios, 56 Esquival, 57 Offer, 58 Mawara, 59 Brava, 60 Mawara, 61 Adios, 62 Esquival, 63 Uphoveal, 64 Iris, 65 Adios, 66 Esquival, 67 Offer, 68 Mawara, 69 Brava, 70 Mawara, 71 Adios, 72 Esquival, 73 Uphoveal, 74 Iris, 75 Adios, 76 Esquival, 77 Offer, 78 Mawara, 79 Brava, 80 Mawara, 81 Adios, 82 Esquival, 83 Uphoveal, 84 Iris, 85 Adios, 86 Esquival, 87 Offer, 88 Mawara, 89 Brava, 90 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# Tzaban: Ethiopians get more aid than Russians

ETHIOPIAN immigrants receive three to four times more government assistance than immigrants from the CIS, Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban said Friday.

Tzaban was responding to claims by Ethiopians that immigrants from the CIS get more from the government.

"In every area, without any exception, Ethiopian immigrants get much more than any other immigrants. Every government ministry invests three to four times more in every Ethiopian immigrant than it does in other

immigrants," Tzaban said in an interview with Army Radio.

Ethiopians get up to \$120,000 for a mortgage, whereas CIS immigrants are only eligible for \$32,000, and about 90 percent of the mortgages for Ethiopians are grants, Tzaban noted.

CS students get a three-year scholarship, whereas Ethiopians receive a scholarship for more than three years, in addition to help in living and housing expenses, he said. These benefits are given to all students of Ethiopian

descent, even if they were born in Israel, Tzaban added.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir, who was also interviewed for the radio program, also said government ministries spend more on Ethiopians than on CIS immigrants, including greater sums on professional training.

"For everything we do for immigrants, we do even more for Ethiopian immigrants - and rightfully so," she said.



Children from Kfar Sava and Kalkilya attend a tree-planting on Friday at the junction leading to Kalkilya and Alfei Menashe. Also attending the gathering - sponsored by Young Labor Party and Young Fatah activists - were Kfar Sava Mayor Yitzhak Wald, Kalkilya Mayor Maarouf Zahran, and Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Bng. (Yisrael Hadruf)

## PA Police crack down on stolen Israeli cars

THE Palestinian Police has begun seizing stolen Israeli cars lidded in PLO-ruled areas, and returned more than 200 vehicles last week, Palestinian officials said Friday.

Car thefts have been a sore point in Israeli-Palestinian relations. Since the start of Palestinian self-rule in May 1994, some 30,000 cars have been stolen in Israel each year. Most were driven into PLO-ruled areas, where thieves are out of reach of Israeli law enforcement.

Israeli officials said Friday that the Palestinian Police campaign is a good start, but that more must be done.

"People need to know that it does not pay to steal cars and smuggle them into the autonomous areas," said Shlomo

Dror, spokesman for Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor, government coordinator in the territories.

Since the campaign began earlier this week, Palestinian police have seized some 220 cars in the West Bank.

In Jericho, police set up checkpoints at main intersections Friday and flagged down motorists for license checks. Seventeen stolen cars were seized Thursday, officials said.

"We are conducting a wide campaign to arrest those behind the car thefts and also to collect the stolen cars," said Col. Ribhi Arafat, a senior Palestinian liaison officer.

However, officials acknowledged it is unlikely the stolen cars would be taken away from government officials. (AP)

## Two killed, eight injured in traffic accidents

SALAMA Ibrahim Salam, a 16-year-old Beduin, died on Friday after being struck by a car on the Beersheba-Arad highway near Omer. Said Huashila, 26, the driver of the car, said the boy suddenly attempted to cross the road and he could not stop his car in time.

In a second fatal accident yesterday, one person was killed and two were injured in a chain collision between the Kedarim and Golani junctions.

Six people were injured on Friday morning near the Missubim junction when the driver of a speeding semi-trailer lost control and plowed into oncoming traffic. Three trucks and a bus were involved in the accident.

This week, six people died in traffic accidents and 30 were seriously injured. (Him)

**LIBI - The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense**

**1995 - A Good Year for the Libi Fund**

A meeting of the Public Committee of the Libi Fund was held recently at the Ministry of Defense. At the meeting, Fund Chairman General (Res.) Danny Matt reported that, during fiscal 1995, the Fund received donations amounting to NIS22.3 m., which may be compared with a total of NIS16.5 m. in 1994.

This represents a nominal increase in income of 35%. If the rise in the index of consumer prices is taken into account, these figures are found to show a real increase of 27%.

General Matt added that 50% of income is allocated to education-related projects, 40% to medical projects, and the balance to various undertakings, implemented for the Israel Defense Forces.

It is fitting to note that the chairman of the Fund, who (in accordance with the Fund's articles of association) is appointed by the prime minister and minister of defense, fulfills his duties in an honorary capacity.

## Parking lot killer gets reduced sentence

THE Supreme Court last week halved the sentence of a man convicted of killing someone in a dispute over a parking spot.

Mendi Sendlovitch shot Raymond Navat in the chest in April 1994, following an argument over a parking space - apparently because he felt physically threatened by the 40-year-old Navat and Navat's son, Sharon. He was indicted for murder, but in December 1994, the Tel Aviv District Court convicted him of manslaughter instead.

The court found he had not been in any objective danger and could have solved the problem in some other manner than by shooting Navat.

It therefore sentenced him to 10 years in prison.

"Violence relating to [use of the roads], whether physical or verbal, has become an inseparable part of the use of cars in this country," the judges wrote in their verdict, explaining the comparatively stiff sentence.

Sendlovitch then appealed to the Supreme Court, and Justices Aharon Barak, Shlomo Levine and Dalia Dorner last week reduced his sentence to five years.

"A psychiatric opinion concerning the appellant's emotional state has been brought to our attention," the justices explained in their verdict. "We are satisfied that in light of this emotional state, and considering the appellant's age [he is 64] ... the appropriate sentence to impose on him is five years."

## Top fashion designers to style Ouman sweaters

THREE of Israel's top fashion designers are to design the sweaters that the workers of the Ouman Knitting Mills in Ofakim intend to produce in the next few months, to fill the orders obtained since the plant closed a month-and-a-half ago.

Doreen Frankfurt, Yuval Caspin, and Gershon Bram responded to the request of Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz and are due to meet the team that is running Ouman until it is taken over by private entrepreneurs.

Hundreds of labor council activists and workers' union members from all over the country are expected to demonstrate outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem this morning. The demonstrators, who are to arrive in 40 buses, will protest Ouman's closure by Polgat and the rising unemployment in Ofakim, which reached 20% following Ouman's closure.

The Histadrut's leadership is cutting short its weekly session today to attend the demonstration.

The negotiations between Polgat's management and the Histadrut and Ouman's union representatives over the severance fees to be paid Ouman's workers resumed last night, following a Beersheba Labor Court hearing last Thursday.

The court, which convened after the Histadrut took over the Ouman plant and operated it for two days with the dismissed workers, told the Histadrut to stop operating Ouman, which is the private property of Polgat.

The Histadrut argued that the takeover of the plant was not trespassing, as Polgat claimed, because the plant structure belongs to the state's Mivnei Ta'asia company rather than to Polgat, and its machines were purchased with state assistance.

The Histadrut, however, agreed to stop operating Ouman as soon as negotiations with Polgat resume.

But Histadrut sources said yesterday that the talks are likely to break down again soon, since there is too great a gap between the two sides' positions. As soon as this happens the Histadrut will resume operating Ouman, the sources said.

In any case, the sources noted, the Histadrut is determined to continue the production at Ouman to fill the orders for 220,000 sweaters it has obtained.

Meanwhile, the textile company Makpel is negotiating with Polgat to buy Ouman and its equipment. Polgat is now demanding between \$4 million and \$5m. - double the initial sum it had quoted.

## Nautilus laser test postponed again

THE test of a joint US-Israel laser gun designed to shoot down a Katyusha rocket has again been delayed, this time because of high winds at the US desert site, US defense sources said yesterday.

The test is regarded as a milestone in the Nautilus program, in which Israel and the US have for the last few years been working on a laser beam that could destroy short-range rockets, mortars, and unmanned aerial vehicles.

Thursday's scheduled demonstration of whether the laser, called MIRACL, could destroy a Katyusha had been regarded as crucial by Israeli officials, concerned over the increasing vulnerability of the northern border to rocket attacks by Hizbullah.

US defense sources said last week's test has been rescheduled for later this week at the same site in New Mexico.

The postponement of the MIR-

ACL laser beam test was the third in less than two months. In early December, a test of the laser gun was shelved when the beam facility was flooded with water.

Another test, scheduled for last Tuesday, was also postponed when a problem developed with an infrared sensor.

US defense officials said the Nautilus program is entering a crucial stage, during which experts will determine the feasibility of destroying incoming enemy rockets with a high-energy laser beam. A successful test, US officials said, would boost efforts by the US Air Force to launch a program to develop airborne lasers to destroy ballistic missiles.

Several Israeli and US companies are working on the project, including Israel Aircraft Industries, Rafael, Tadiran, and the US company TRW, US defense sources said.

## 200,000 pray at Al-Aksa

SOME 200,000 Moslems from Judea, Samaria, and eastern Jerusalem prayed at the Temple Mount on Friday, the second Friday of Ramadan.

Thousands of policemen and border policemen were deployed, and Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz reviewed the security operations during the peaceful event.

Historians say Caesarea, the capital of ancient Palestine for 600 years, was renowned for the splendor of its buildings. Porat said, "archaeologists had also unearthed new sections of a previously discovered hippodrome, which he said is the most well-preserved in the Middle East." (Reuter)

**WEATHER**

Jerusalem 2-11  
Haifa 6-16  
Tel Aviv 8-17  
Beersheba 6-16  
Eilat 9-21  
Tiberias 7-17  
Afula 5-16  
Samarit 3-11  
Golan 2-10  
Dead Sea 8-20

Forecast: Partly cloudy and chilly.

**AROUND THE WORLD**

	LOW	HIGH	WIND	SEA
Amsterdam	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
Buenos Aires	12-18	20-22	SE 10-15	choppy
Chicago	3-7	10-12	W 10-15	choppy
Copenhagen	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
Helsinki	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
Hong Kong	18-24	26-28	SE 10-15	choppy
London	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
Los Angeles	5-9	12-16	W 10-15	choppy
Moscow	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
New York	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
Paris	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
San Francisco	5-9	12-16	W 10-15	choppy
Tel Aviv	8-17	10-12	SE 10-15	choppy
Tokyo	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
Vienna	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy
Zurich	4-8	10-12	SW 10-15	choppy

## Archeologists uncover Herodian wall at Caesarea

ARCHEOLOGISTS have found traces of a wall they say formed the southern border of the city of Caesarea during the Herodian period, a spokesman said on Friday.

Motti Neiger, spokesman for the Antiquities Authority, said the find allows archeologists for the first time to trace the boundaries and plan of the city rebuilt by Herod, king of Judea from 37 BCE until his death in 4 CE.

"We didn't imagine that the city was so thoroughly planned," said Dr. Yosef Porat, who heads the dig.

"The picture today is clear, complete, and beautiful," he told Israel Radio.

Historians say Caesarea, the capital of ancient Palestine for 600 years, was renowned for the splendor of its buildings. Porat said, "archaeologists had also unearthed new sections of a previously discovered hippodrome, which he said is the most well-preserved in the Middle East." (Reuter)

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